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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1902.

THE MOSQUITO AND MALARIAL FEVER.

LECTURE BY DR. J. C. THOMSON
AT THE CITY HALL.

On Monday evening, the 15th inst., Dr. J. C. Thomson lectured under the auspices of the Odd Volumes Society on the mosquito and its relation to malaria. There was a large attendance, including many ladies. H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., presided; and among others present were Lady Blake and Miss Blake, Sir John Keane, Private Secretary, and Captain Arbuthnot, A.D.C. to His Excellency; H.E. Major-General Sir William J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Lady Gascoigne, and Captain the Hon. H. W. Trufusis, A.D.C. to His Excellency; Sir William M. Goodman, Chief Justice, and Lady Goodman; Commodore Robinson and Mrs. Robinson and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., hon. secretary of the Odd Volumes Society.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, in introducing the lecturer, expressed the pleasure it gave him to preside at that the first of the season's meetings of the Odd Volumes Society, meetings which had been very interesting in past years and which had been resuscitated thanks to the energy of Mr. Pollock, recently returned to the Colony. We had in Hongkong immeasurable possibilities for every kind of game conceivable for the purpose of improving our physical condition and keeping ourselves in health, but there had been with few exceptions no intellectual movements in which the community could take part and where subjects of interest might be discussed. In connection with the Odd Volumes Society there had been many interesting papers read from time to time, but no subject had been of more interest, locally and generally, than the subject on which Dr. Thomson was going to address them that night—the subject of mosquitoes with reference to malarial fever, which was the curse of life in the tropics and one which we felt a great deal in Hongkong. He would only say that at the end of Dr. Thomson's lecture they would be very glad if any gentleman present would join in discussion and offer any observations which struck him with reference to the matter to be brought before them. He had no doubt that some of General Gascoigne's officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, who had a particular knowledge of the subject, of the influence of the mosquito in spreading malarial fever and whether it was the only source from which the fever was spread, would be able to give them some very interesting information, which would be very gladly listened to. In conclusion His Excellency formally introduced Dr. Thomson to the audience.

Dr. THOMSON said—Your Excellency, I very willingly consented to the proposal that at the opening meeting of this session of the Odd Volumes Society I should lecture on the subject of the relationship that exists between malaria and the mosquito, affording me as it does an opportunity of disseminating information on a subject than which there is none more important to the public health of this Colony (with the possible single exception of bubonic plague), which may lead to co-operation in measures for the destruction of the cause of this disease so far-reaching in its effects on health and life. And let me say forthwith, that, while what I

may say to-night will chiefly incriminate the genus *anopheles*, the crusade I preach is, for reasons which I shall briefly indicate later, a war of extermination against the whole family of mosquitoes in all its branches. I use the word "extermination" deliberately, even while I know it to be on the wide scale an impossibility. Mosquitoes are world-wide in their distribution; They equally affect great centres of population and the wildest wastes on the face of the earth; they are equally the scourge of the Arctic explorer and the terror of the tropical traveller; they are found on the hill-tops of the world, and they swarm throughout its river deltas; and the same species of mosquito has been found at an altitude of 13,000 feet among the Himalayas and on the sea-level in Scandinavia. And the fecundity of the insect is amazing. Ficalbi says that one mother mosquito may, in the fifth generation be the progenitor of twenty millions. Howard shows that one rain-water barrel may contain nearly 20,000 larvae, and that they may produce twelve generations in one summer. This at a low estimate would produce in a single summer a number of mosquitoes expressed by 25 figures, an unthinkable number. In Hongkong, mosquitoes are found everywhere throughout the island, from the Flagstaff to the Praya. They breed in myriads in every ravine throughout the length and breadth and height of it. How then propose "extermination?"

Over against the facts I have just mentioned, we have the fortunate circumstance that mosquitoes as a rule fly only a very short distance from their native haunts, from the place where they were bred. They take shelter from the gentlest breeze, and are hence rarely carried any distance by the wind. The distance of flight has been variously estimated by different observers, and while some make it a few hundred yards, and others think they may at times fly half a mile or more, all agree that it is very limited. For safety let the longest estimate be accepted. The breeding habits of the mosquito are well ascertained and easily assailable, and what I claim is that we may create in Hongkong and its immediate neighbourhood conditions that will make it impossible for the insect to breed within the City of Victoria; so that, while an occasional mosquito might continue to find its way from the outlying districts, the mosquito may in this city become for all practical purposes as extinct as the dodo; and, so far as infection with malaria within the city itself is concerned, this City of Victoria may become as free from malaria as is the city of Rome, which, built as it is in the midst of a region full of the most pernicious forms of malaria, is yet itself quite free from the disease.

But, sir, this is premature. I have claimed the death-sentence before I have made my case against the mosquito. Let me tell you, stage by stage, the story of how we have arrived at our present knowledge of the relation that exists between this insect and malaria, than which there is none more interesting or practically important among all the fairy-like tales of scientific research. It is a curious circumstance that long before science heard of the subject it was a popular belief that mosquito-bites caused malaria, among the natives of regions so widely apart as the plains of Italy, the swamps of East Africa, the jungles of Burma, and the backwoods of America. But the more commonly accepted article of faith, expressed by the name

"malaria," was that bad air, evil vapours, noxious exhalations from damp or marshy soil, were the cause of this the source above all others of mortality and ill-health in the tropics and sub-tropics. Within the past few years, however, our knowledge on this subject has been revolutionised; and we now know as a matter of demonstration, conducted under the most stringent conditions of scientific investigation, that a certain genus of mosquito, the *anopheles*, is the principal, and probably the only, carrier of malaria from one human being to another.

Let me remark in passing that while the word "mosquito" is a diminutive of a Spanish and Portuguese word *mosca* a fly, and *culex* is the ordinary Latin word for a mosquito or gnat, *anopheles* is a transliteration of a Greek adjective signifying "harmful" or "injurious." Surely he who named "*anopheles*" had the vision of a seer!

The malaria parasite was first recognised as such in 1880 by a young French surgeon, still living, named Laveran, at that time stationed at Algiers in North Africa. Examining under the microscope the blood of a malaria patient he saw certain organisms within the red blood cells, which on further research proved to be constantly present in all similar cases. This is what he saw. The blood consists of a liquid in which float enormous numbers of little independent bodies, so minute that a cube of blood 1/25th of an inch across contains over five millions of them. These cells are of two kinds, white and red, the red greatly preponderating, and it is within these minute red corpuscles that the malaria parasite has its habitat, and undergoes its development. It feeds on the red colouring matter of the cell, destroying the cell itself in the process. Most of the parasites as they develop are transformed into little masses of spores, which by the rupture of the containing blood cells are set free in the blood fluid. The spores at once attach themselves to, and enter, other blood cells, and proceed to undergo a similar evolution from a tiny colourless speck to the pigmented parasite, whose pigment is derived from the destroyed blood cells, and later to the mature sporocyst, which in turn breaks up and sets free a fresh brood of spores in the blood.

The next notable advance was made by Golgi, of Pavia in North Italy. Studying the mild spring fevers, he noticed that all the parasites in any particular case are at approximately the same stage of development. If one was found sporulating, then all would be in a state of maturity. He further observed that the attack of fever is always coincident with the rupture of a crop of the parasites, being evidently due to the setting free in the blood of some toxin or poison when the parasite-containing cells break up. He found that there are marked differences between the parasites that cause the tertian and quartan forms of malarial fever, and that the cause of the recurrence of the fever, and the fever every other day and every third day respectively in these two forms of intermittent fever, is that the tertian parasite matures in 48 hours, while the life-cycle of the quartan parasite is 72 hours.

A little later, other Italian observers differentiated a third species of the parasite as the cause of the more malignant fevers of tropical climates. This was the form originally seen by Laveran in Africa, and is the most common in Hongkong, though the benign forms are also met with here. In this type the crops of

parasites ripen less regularly than in the simple intermittent fevers, and the result is that rupture of sporocysts is taking place all the time, poison such as I spoke of is being poured into the blood continuously, and we get a continued fever, or a fever which only occasionally remits to a slight extent, instead of the burst of ague, with the succeeding complete intermission, which characterises the more benign types of fever. So definite are the differences among the three main types of the parasite that it is possible by microscopic examination of a drop of blood from the finger of a fever patient to diagnose not merely the fact of malaria, but its variety and the probable future course of the illness. For some time after this, the method of transmission of malaria from one human being to another remained a mystery. It was found that blood containing the parasite of malaria, if inoculated in a healthy person, not only reproduces the disease but produces invariably malaria of a type exactly corresponding with that inoculated. But how nature effects this same object remained unknown.

I mentioned that most of the parasites in the blood of a person suffering from malaria form sporocysts, and by means of spores the existence of the parasite within the infected person is maintained; but this is not true of all the parasites, certain of them on reaching maturity not going on to sporulation. These exceptional parasites, which in the malignant type of malaria are crescentic in form, when observed under the microscope under suitable conditions, were found to throw off little rapidly moving whip-like processes, which become detached and float free in the blood fluid. In 1894, Dr. Patrick Manson suggested that as these cells only develop their flagella some time after the blood has been drawn from the body, and never possess them at the time of leaving the human body, this would probably prove to be part of an extra-corporeal cycle of the parasite, and that these cells would be found to have something to do with the transmission of the disease from one person to another. He further suggested that as the parasite lives only within the blood corpuscles, and appears in none of the discharges, it must be carried by some blood-sucking insect, which from its habits and the correspondence of its distribution with that of malaria he believed would prove to be the mosquito. The possibility of something of this nature being the truth had before been suspected, but it was Manson who definitely publicly propounded the theory. Major Ronald Ross of the Indian Medical Service set to work to test Manson's theory. His method was to allow mosquitoes, which had been bred from the larval stage in his laboratory to secure that they should be free from any infection otherwise, to bite persons suffering from malaria, and then after varying intervals to search in the bodies of the insects thus fed with infected blood for evidence of the presence or development of the parasite. For two long years he failed to find any trace of it. Yet he persisted, and it is this persistence in the pursuit of the theory that had laid hold on him, in face of such utter failure, that constitutes one most admirable feature of Ross's work. At length, in August 1897, he tried a hitherto unused species of mosquito, belonging to the now well-known genus *Anopheles*, and found that, a day or two after they had been fed with malarial blood, organisms similar to those of malaria were to be found encysted between the layers of the stomach walls in the infected insects. He had solved the problem of the transmission of malaria, although much detail still needed to be filled in. Just at this crucial moment Ross's research was interrupted by an outbreak of plague, and when he was able to resume it early in 1898 it was not the fever season, and no cases of malaria were available. In these circumstances he turned his attention to the life-history of a parasite similar to the malaria parasite of man that causes a corresponding blood infection in sparrows and other small birds. He found that *Culex* mosquitoes, which had given entirely negative results with human malaria, were able to be the hosts of the parasite of sparrow malaria, *Proteosoma*. Briefly, Ross's results were as follows:—He fed mosquitoes on sparrows infected with the *Proteosoma*. In insects so fed he found that the parasites made their way through the inner membrane of the stomach, and became en-

cysted in the outer layer of the stomach wall. There a remarkable evolution took place, with large increase in size of the encysted parasite, resulting after a week or so in the production within each parasite of an enormous number of minute rod-like bodies, which were eventually set free in the body cavity of the mosquito by the rupture of the cyst containing them. These germinal rods were carried everywhere through the body by what corresponds to the blood-circulation in the mosquito, but tended to accumulate especially in the salivary or poison glands, the glands that secrete the acid fluid which the mosquito injects when it bites, and which causes the irritation of the mosquito bite, and in the duct which leads from these glands to the proboscis or mouth of the insect. Finally, Ross caused mosquitoes thus infected, after the period necessary for the evolution of the parasite just described had elapsed, to bite healthy sparrows, whose blood he had ascertained to be free from *Proteosoma*, and succeeded in by this means infecting them with that parasite. This is now spoken of as the cycle of Ross. What Ross thus proved for sparrow malaria, viz., that certain *Culex* mosquitoes may carry the disease from one bird to another, was eagerly followed up by Italian scientists, among whom Grassi's name ranks high, and very soon similar facts were worked out in yet fuller detail, proving a precisely similar relation between the *Anopheles* mosquito and human malaria. Let me state it briefly: *Anopheles* mosquitoes are not naturally infective. But if they ingest human blood containing malaria parasites, then at the end of a week or so, the period required for the evolution of the germinal rods, called *sporozoites*, they become infective to any human being on whom they may feed, injecting the germs with the juice which they always inject before they begin to suck blood. A man so infected by the bite of an infected *Anopheles* will, after an incubation period of a little over a fortnight, during which the parasite is multiplying itself within his blood cells, develop malaria. A single infective bite is probably sufficient to convey the disease.

Meanwhile, at the other side of the globe, a young American pathologist, named MacCallum, was studying at Baltimore another cognate parasite, named *Halitidum*, which he found in the blood of crows, and which I find exists in pigeons in Hongkong, and he discovered in 1897 the actual destination of the free-swimming whip-like processes which I mentioned as being given off by the flagellating form of the parasite. While watching certain parasites under the microscope he noticed that some of them gave off flagella as I have described, others, however, somewhat more granular in appearance, remaining quite passive. He saw a free flagellum approach one of the quiescent parasites, enter it, and become fused with its substance. And then a remarkable change occurred. The hitherto entirely passive little animal became exceedingly active in its movements, and gradually became elongated and wormlike in its appearance. MacCallum recognised that what he had seen was a true sexual process in a very lowly form of animal life. Koch observed this fertilised form, wormlike in shape, in a mosquito's stomach soon after feeding a *Culex* on a sparrow infected with *Proteosoma*. Finally, Grassi traced the whole process, step by step, in the case of human malaria, bringing together, and applying to the human parasite what had been worked out, bit by bit, as I have shown, by many workers, of various nationalities, in widely separated parts of the world. At no single point is the evidence incomplete.

Briefly epitomised, the mosquito malaria theory is as follows:—The parasites of malaria, like many other parasitic organisms, have two cycles of development. One is asexual, by spore formation, providing for the propagation of the parasite within the human host. The other cycle is sexual, fertilisation taking place in the stomach of the mosquito, when infected blood has been ingested, and development taking place in the walls of the stomach. The germs produced collect in great numbers in the salivary glands of the insect, and are injected with the poison when it bites a human being. And, finally, healthy persons thus bitten by infected *Anopheles* themselves contract the disease a fortnight or three weeks later.

Let me invite your attention to this diagram kindly placed at my disposal by Dr. Hunter from among those he uses for class purposes in the College of Medicine for Chinese; but I beg of you do not read his nomenclature. It was "made in Germany." There are a dozen different ways of describing what is here illustrated, all of them admirable, but tending to terrific confusion when they happen to meet. As Kipling has it: "There are nine and sixty ways of constructing tribal lays; and every single one of them is right." A public experiment was arranged in 1900 under the auspices of the Colonial Office, and under the direction of Dr. Manson, by whom it was suggested, to thoroughly test the mosquito-malaria theory, positively and negatively. It was no new experiment, for proof was already abounding, but it was a public popular demonstration. Mosquitoes were infected in Italy with the parasites of benign tertian malaria; sent to London with all speed; and allowed to feed on Dr. Thurburn Manson, a son of [Dr. Manson, and on Mr. R. Warren, of the London Tropical School. In each case fever developed exactly eighteen days after they were bitten by the infected mosquitoes, and the parasite of benign tertian malaria was found in their blood by competent independent observers. On the other hand, Dr. Sambon, one of the Lecturers at the London Tropical School, and Dr. Low, one of the most brilliant of its students, volunteered to spend the fever season of 1900 in the most deadly spot to be found in the Roman Campagna, with no protection against malaria other than the avoidance of mosquito-bites between sunset and sunrise, the hours during which *Anopheles* usually feeds. This they secured by means of a carefully constructed hut, whose windows were covered with wire gauze, into which they retired an hour before sunset each evening. They moved freely about the country in the daytime. They lived thus in the district of Ostia, near the mouth of the Tiber, from 19th July to 19th October, 1900, i.e., the whole of the severely malarious season; and retained perfect health. A control experiment was inadvertently made during their residence at Ostia. After the assassination of King Humbert, which occurred just then, fifteen or sixteen police agents were sent to Ostia to arrest suspected anarchists, and though they spent only part of a night in the district every man of them contracted fever a fortnight or so later, i.e., after the usual incubation period. Dr. Sambon and Dr. Low, with two companions, an artist and a servant, spent three months in their hut among the marshes, using no quinine or other prophylactic, and not one of the four contracted malarial fever. Thus, positively and negatively, the Colonial Office experiment was entirely successful. A most important point in its bearing on practical measures against the malaria-conveying mosquito is that the mosquito does not transmit the parasite of malaria to its offspring. It might have been otherwise. In the case of the cognate parasite of a wasting disease of cattle, which is very widely spread over the world, though it is known as Texas fever, the tick which conveys the parasite from one animal to another transmits it to its young, so that the young tick is infective from the first. But experiment and observation in Italy and elsewhere have rendered it certain that the mosquito does not do this, and that the insect to become infective must itself be first individually infected, by feeding on a human being whose blood contains the parasite of malaria.

And this leads me to mention of another important practical consideration. So far as is known, no other animal shares with man the tendency to be the intermediate host of the parasites of human malaria. Many animals, cattle, sheep, dogs, bats, monkeys, birds, frogs, etc., suffer from blood parasites akin to those of malaria; but the parasites are of quite distinct species. Koch specially investigated the possibility of transmitting malaria to the lower animals in Java, where he was able to experiment with animals closely allied to the human species, the orang-outang and hylobates, but he failed entirely to produce the disease in these higher apes, as other investigators have failed with other animals. This, of course, does not absolutely prove that no lower animal can be hospitable to the parasites of human

malaria, as there may be one not yet experimented with; but the probabilities are so great as to amount to practical certainty.

It follows then that malaria would entirely and finally disappear if any one of three measures could be efficiently carried into effect:—1. If the blood of all malarious persons could be disinfected, say by quinine. 2. If all healthy mosquitoes could be prevented from biting infected persons; or if infected mosquitoes could be prevented from biting healthy persons. 3. If all anopheles mosquitoes could be destroyed. Unfortunately no one of the three is capable of sufficiently universal application; and it remains in any given locality to apply the general principles stated as may seem most likely to reduce malaria to a minimum, or cause its entire disappearance, in that locality.

Now as regards Hongkong. The first is manifestly impossible among a population whose constituents are changing by the thousand every day through the Canton and other local steamers; the second is equally out of the question as a public measure, though much may be done in the way of personal prophylaxis by the careful use of mosquito-netting; and, in special circumstances, the use of wire gauze protection of doors, windows, and verandahs; but the third measure is, I claim, entirely possible and thoroughly practicable, could sufficient public opinion demanding it be aroused to allow of efficient legislation on the subject. Let every nullah in and near the city be given a perfectly smooth floor by careful training; let the Sanitary Board be given authority to treat every collection of stagnant water, whether it be an ooze from the hillside or a rain-collection in an old flowerpot, as a nuisance, to be dealt with as other nuisances are dealt with; let a sufficient staff be provided to carry into effect the new bye-laws; let it be thus rendered impossible for mosquitoes to find breeding-places within the precincts of the city; and anopheles and culex alike would disappear from this city of Victoria.

Let me briefly show reason for my plea that culex as well as anopheles should be exterminated. There is among the Chinese of this neighbourhood a disease, or rather a group of diseases, the most striking of which is elephantiasis, where a limb or other part of the body becomes hugely hypertrophied, and life becomes a burden from the sheer weight of the part affected. These diseases are due to the presence in lymph vessels of a parasitic worm, the young of which appear in the blood stream as the minute blood worm, one of whose names is the *Filaria sanguinis hominis*, the thread-worm of the human blood. Now this blood-worm is transmitted from one human being to another by a culex mosquito, *Culex fatigans*, one of the brown forms of mosquito so common in the early evening in this Colony. The details differ somewhat, but practically transmission takes place just as malaria is transmitted by anopheles. Again, yellow fever has now been traced equally definitely to a *Culex fasciatus* as the transmitting agent. It is simply a variety of the black-and-white striped "tiger" mosquito that gives us so much trouble in the day time, *Culex scutellaris*. Theobald, the entomologist at the British Museum, has recently broken up the old culex genus, and he includes these two insects in a new small genus, *Stegomyia*, describing them as the *Stegomyia fasciata* and the *Stegomyia scutellaris*. I find that the habits of *Scutellaris* here exactly correspond with those of *S. fasciata* in the regions where yellow fever prevails; and what I want to point out is, that if yellow fever should visit Hongkong, we have a mosquito swarming in the Colony which can cause it to become epidemic. We are apt to think of yellow fever as the scourge of the far-away West Indies and Central America, and not to be reckoned with here. Let me read to you a paragraph that appeared in our local papers so recently as December 4th (*Daily Press*):—"A new shipping line in Hongkong. China Commercial S.S. Co., Ltd. We are informed that the China Commercial S.S. Co., which was incorporated in Hongkong on 1st November, will inaugurate a service between this port and Mexico at the beginning of March next. The Company's steamers will carry both freight and passengers, and a monthly service will be maintained between Hongkong and the Mexican ports."

I hold, sir, no brief to advertise this Company. I have directed attention to the paragraph I have read in order that I may point out to this representative meeting that from the first of next March Hongkong will be in direct communication with one of the great endemic centres of yellow fever, and we may any day thereafter have yellow fever landed on our shores. And, as I have said, we have the appropriate culex, *Stegomyia*, ready to carry it from man to man, a mosquito which from its day-feeding habits is more difficult to reckon with than anopheles. Now let me show the converse of all this. Yellow fever has been endemic in Havana continuously throughout its history. Yellow fever has been to it always what bubonic plague has been to Hongkong in recent years, though not so fatal. There were during 1900, 1,244 cases of yellow fever, with 310 deaths. In February of last year the authorities of Havana resolved to act on the mosquito theory of its origin, and to take measures to abolish it. [Extract from the *Medical Review* of October, 1902.] "An ordinance was issued requiring all people within city limits to keep receptacles containing water mosquito-proof. The city was divided into districts. An inspector was appointed for each, under whose directions oil was poured into all puddles, cess-pools, etc. and after sufficient notice had been given all receptacles in which larvae were found were destroyed. All persons having larvae on their premises were fined. To prevent the *Stegomyia* from biting infected persons, the hospitals and houses in which there were cases of yellow fever was thoroughly screened. To kill the infected mosquitoes the infected building was dusted from top to bottom with pyrethrum powder. . . . The mosquitoes were carefully swept up and destroyed. The houses contiguous to the infected house were treated in the same way lest infected mosquitoes had escaped to them. The reporting of yellow fever was made compulsory." What was the result of all this? The destruction of mosquitoes was begun on 27th February. In March there were only 2 cases. No other case occurred until 20th April. This condition had never been approximated before in Havana. The total of cases after that was:—April 2, May 4, June 0, July 4, August 6, September 1, and in October, November and December, 1901, and January of the present year not a single case occurred. What was done in Havana a year ago can be done in Hongkong, in view of malaria and the filarial diseases present with us, and to anticipate yellow fever. Meanwhile, until the law shall step in, as step in it will one day, to compel the abolition of stagnant water, let me urge for reasons of personal interest the systematic inspection of premises for the presence of "wrigglers" in water. It is undoubted that mosquitoes that infest any house have been bred on the spot, in such receptacles as old flowerpots, broken dishes, empty water-tanks, fire-buckets, the plates under flowerstands, under the ice-chest to catch the drippings, under the feet of furniture to prevent the approach of ants, and such like. An inspection once a week is sufficient to effectually stop the breeding of mosquitoes in any locality.

Before we turn to the practical demonstration I would like to refer to the connection of malaria with earth-cutting. Explanations of a far-fetched character, into which I shall not enter, have been offered; but so far as Hongkong is concerned the following is the probable explanation of what until recently was very mysterious. Let us consider the case of a new building being erected at the Peak, in a part of the Peak where in ordinary times malaria is unknown. This absence of fever is not entirely due to the absence of the anopheles mosquitoes, for they breed in the ravines at the Peak as well as elsewhere. But in ordinary circumstances the locality is peopled by Europeans, or Chinese, who have been long associated with Europeans, and who, when they have previously suffered from malaria, have had their blood cleared of the parasite by the use of quinine. The conditions, in fact, are pretty much what they are in many parts of England, where anopheles are present and formerly worked havoc among the population. James I. of England and Oliver Cromwell, the Protector, both died of malarial fever. But in England drainage has reduced the number of mosquitoes, and the malarious part of the population has

been saturated with quinine, until as the years have passed fewer and fewer anopheles have been infected, most of those that exist are harmless, and malaria is nearly extinct. But the building of a house in such a Peak district as I have supposed introduces an entirely new factor. The first public indication of the new scheme is the erection of a big matshed, and the importation of a crowd of Chinese coolies, who spend the night as well as the day in the hitherto non-malarious district. I have not had occasion to mention that the crescentic mosquito-infecting form of the parasite malaria is extremely resistant, and persists in the blood of a person who has suffered from malaria for long periods after all trace of the fever has disappeared. There are thousands of people walking the streets of Hongkong to-day showing no symptoms of malaria, yet infective to mosquitoes through the crescents in their blood. In any crowd of coolies, therefore, it is almost a foregone conclusion that some of them are malaria-infected. Our hitherto harmless Peak anopheles feed on them, ingest the parasite, and become themselves infective. So it comes about that a few weeks after the commencement of earth-cutting for the new building cases of fever begin to show themselves in the houses in the neighbourhood, especially among the children who are more susceptible to malaria, and such cases continue to occur throughout the operations, and for a short time after. Then the gang of coolies disappear from the locality, the residents quinine themselves and their servants who may have suffered, and the infected mosquitoes die out, and conditions return to their normal. The earth-cutting is over: the fever is gone. The earth-cutting, sir, had nothing to do with the fever: it was a mere accident of the situation. The recent severe epidemic of malaria in the region surrounding MacDonnell Road I attribute to no other cause than this. Anopheles were breeding in these ravines in the past in swarms, as they still are where measures against them are not being adopted; but the extensive building operations above MacDonnell Road, with the crowds of Chinese coolies introduced, have made them now infected mosquitoes. The building operations must go on; the crowds of coolies are essential; the remedy is, destroy the mosquitoes—and this can be done. I have urged that in addition to the ravines and the waterpools throughout the district being dealt with, there should be a general fumigation of all basements, boxrooms, servants' quarters, &c., in this locality with chlorine gas in course of the winter, for the destruction of adult insects, which tend to hibernate in such places. It is a mistake to suppose the mosquito the creature of a day. It lives for months, and there is a modified hibernation, fertilised females living in a quiescent state throughout the winter, ready to lay their eggs in the early spring.

And now let me invite your attention to the practical demonstration I have proposed. Under the microscopes you will find specimens of the parasites of malaria, of *halteridium* in the blood of a pigeon, of the blood-worm, *Filaria sanguinis hominis*, and of the important distinguishing features of the two great mosquito groups. Dr. Hunter and Dr. Pearce have kindly promised to stand by the microscope table for reference if anything should not be clear. A touch or a shake is sufficient to put a high-power microscope out of focus. And I shall be glad if anyone who fails to see what is said to be seeable will at once direct attention to it, that the matter may be rectified by one of these gentlemen or myself. On the second table I have placed pictures and photographs illustrating much of what I have been saying, and showing one or two of the workers in this field of science whose names I have mentioned. I also submit for your inspection a few of the works on malaria and mosquitoes, both more elementary and more abstruse, for the information of those who may wish to go into the question more fully. Some of them at least are in stock locally. On the third table will be found specimens of the mosquito in all its stages, pinned specimens, loose specimens, and living specimens. All the living specimens are safely muzzled. My chief aim in arranging this part of my demonstration has been to facilitate comparison between anopheles and culex, and to enable you to train the eye to

recognise them either in the larval stage or in the adult stage. The individual names are of no importance from the present point of view, and they are not labelled in detail.

I may mention in passing that the two genera prevail in Hongkong in very unequal proportions, fortunately from the point of view of malaria. That I might determine their relative prevalence, I examined during the twelve months, Oct. 1, 1900, to Sept. 30, 1901, 31,390 mosquitoes, supplied to me in weekly instalments from all parts of the island and the New Territory though the kindness of the police; and I found that 1,169, i.e. 3.7 per cent., were anopheles of 3 species, and 30,221, i.e. 96.3 per cent., were culex of 12 species. Of the three species of anopheles, *Anopheles Sinensis* is a widely distributed form. It breeds on the low levels and among the rice fields. The other two, *Anopheles Maculatus* and *Anopheles Minimus*, were named and described from specimens which I sent to the British Museum through Dr. Rees of the London Tropical School. They have not thus far been found elsewhere than in Hongkong. They breed in the ravines all over the Colony, wherever the water is for any cause prevented from running freely. In most exhibitions you are particularly requested not to touch. In this demonstration you are invited to touch and handle everything. The flasks and cubes of mosquitoes and larvae are arranged in pairs, one containing culex and the other anopheles, for examination side by side. The males in both genera are readily distinguished by the abundantly feathered condition of the palps and antennae. With the exception of probably only *Stegomyia*, of which I spoke in reference to yellow fever, all male mosquitoes are vegetative in their habits.

The lecturer, who was loudly applauded when he concluded, was succeeded on the platform by H.E. the GOVERNOR, who said that whilst some of the gentlemen present, especially the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, were making up their minds to say something, he proposed to make a few observations on what he thought was the most interesting lecture delivered in Hongkong for a number of years. The question of the influence of the anopheles mosquito in spreading malaria was a most important one, and there was nothing in the life history of the mosquito, anopheles and culex, that had not been clearly expounded by Dr. Thomson; in fact so clearly had that history been detailed that there was not a mosquito in the Colony but would lie uneasily in his bed that night. (Laughter.) The question, however, was not solely the connection existing between the mosquito and malaria, but whether the mosquito was the sole means of propagating the disease. That that charge could be laid

against the mosquito did not seem probable from the experience of the troops occupying the Sanatorium at the Peak two years ago. Malarial fever attacked them, and so badly that they had to be removed to the barracks on the lower levels. Dr. Young, an officer of the Indian Medical Staff, who was here at the time of the North China Expedition, and who, like Dr. Thomson, was an enthusiast in the investigation of this most interesting question, made an examination of the surroundings of the Sanatorium, and found them to be swarming with mosquitoes. He found that the anopheles mosquito was present everywhere, and it was proposed that something should be done to get rid of the insect. The steps recommended were taken, and 200 to 250 Indian troops were sent up by Major-General Gascoigne. These men were engaged for months in cutting down brushwood, draining nullahs, and doing everything that science could devise for the purpose of ridding the locality of mosquitoes. The curious thing was that these Indian troops, who were exposed to all the ravages of the mosquitoes at night, for they were encamped there, did not suffer at all. When the operations were finished the white troops were again sent up to the Sanatorium and no disease was to be found there, but when part of the King's Own Regiment took up occupation of the Sanatorium such a great amount of malarial fever declared itself that the men had to be withdrawn. Dealing with the New Territory, where they had had large experience of malarial fever, and where a number of men had been lost during the building of the new Police Stations, His Excellency said that at Sai Kun the erection of the station was delayed for a long time because of the number of coolies that were down with the disease; six of whom and one contractor had died. According to the theory propounded by Dr. Thomson, the mosquitoes must have become infected from the coolies, and in turn should have infected the healthy men who afterwards inhabited the station. But they did not, and there the matter remained. After dealing with the means adopted for the fighting of malaria in the New Territory, consisting chiefly in the proper use of prophylactics, which were attended with beneficial results, His Excellency concluded by saying that in all such theories he was sure one could always find some fact that could not be got over, and he was by no means sure there were not other agencies besides the anopheles mosquito for the propagation of malarial fever. (Applause.)

Following Colonel BROWN, R.E., who spoke of his observations with regard to the Sanatorium, Dr. ATKINSON, Principal Civil Medical Officer, said they had listened with much attention to the able and clear way

in which Dr. Thomson in his paper had traced the connection between malaria and mosquitoes. It was generally held now in the profession that malaria fever was a contagious disease, and that the contagion was transmitted to man by the bite of an infected anopheles; indeed a saying of Dr. Manson, a great authority, was, "no anopheles, no malaria." The speaker believed the time would soon come when those suffering from this disease would have to be isolated, that was to say, be treated in the same way as we would a person suffering from smallpox. This method of isolating those suffering from that form of malarial fever, in which crescents were formed in the blood, would, he thought, prove more efficacious than attempting to rid a place like this of mosquitoes. There were so many crevices in the hillsides of a place configured like Hongkong, where standing water can collect and where anopheles breed, that he feared it would be a matter of impossibility to exterminate them. Dr. Thomson's remarks concerning the likelihood of yellow fever breaking out here as the result of the establishment of this New Steamship Company were in his opinion of too alarmist a nature, and he thought he was correct in stating that yellow fever is not endemic beyond ten degrees north or south of the equator. This being so, even if yellow fever were introduced, it would not secure a foothold here. There were one or two practical points which might prove of interest, one being that he found last year in certain experiments which he conducted that Jeyes' fluid was one of the most effective larvicides, one teaspoonful to 1½ gallons of water containing larvae killed them all within five minutes. Therefore if residents would see that Jeyes' fluid was added, say daily, in these proportions to any collections of standing water on their premises, much would be done in the way of destroying these insects. Another was that by burning the unexpanded heads of certain species of chrysanthemums mosquitoes could be destroyed. In Italy there was a powder sold under the name of zanzolin, which consisted of the powdered unexpanded flowers of chrysanthemums with the addition of valerian root, the fumes given off by burning this powder were used in destroying mosquitoes inside out-houses, &c. By cultivating chrysanthemums on a large scale, and they grow well here, it was very probable that the malarious place itself will produce that which will rid it of the mosquitoes which infest it. These few practical points, concluded Dr. Atkinson, he had mentioned as he deemed them worthy of interest.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer, on the motion of H.E. the GOVERNOR, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. VII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1902.

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BIRTHS.

On the 29th November, at Newchwang, the wife of H. F. MILLER, of a son.

On the 12th December, at No. 10, Museum Road, Shanghai, the wife of W. J. B. CARTER, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 11th December, at high noon, at "Inverurie," Hongkong, Miss AUGUSTA WOODWARD, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. THEODORE F. FORBES, to Lieutenant HARRISON AUGUSTUS BISPHAM, U.S.N., by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A.

On the 12th December, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, ERNEST, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. CARTER, of Maidenhead, England, to EVA, only daughter of the late FRANCIS ROBERTSON, of Buenos Ayres, and of Mrs. ROBERTSON, Forest Gate, London.

DEATHS.

On the 12th inst., at "Glenwood," 21, Caine Road, Hongkong, R. SALIE POTTENHEIM, dearly beloved sister of ARTHUR H. BOTTENHEIM.

On the 14th December, at 130, Wanchai Road, EDWIN, the beloved husband of DOLORES RYDER, aged 35 years, deeply regretted.

On the 14th December, at 8.45 p.m., at Macao, in his residence, the Knight Commander LOURENÇO MARQUES, aged 91 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 14th November arrived, per M.M. steamer *Laos*, on the 15th December (31 days); the American mail of the 15th November arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 17th December (32 days); and the English mail of the 21st November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, on the 19th December (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Griscom, U.S. Minister to Persia, has been appointed U.S. Minister to Japan; not, as was anticipated by many, Mr. John Barrett.

H.E. Senhor Arnaldo de Novaes, the new Governor of Macao, arrived in Hongkong on Monday and left again for the Portuguese Colony on Wednesday.

The Rt. Hon. St. John Brodrick stated in the House of Commons this week that it has been recently decided to retain the Chinese Regiment, consisting of four companies.

The foreign banks at Bangkok have settled with the Siamese Government an approved scheme for putting ticals on a gold basis. There is general satisfaction at this turn of events, and it is expected that business will be resumed at once.

The Crown Prince of Siam left Vancouver for Japan by the *Empress of China*. The Siamese Royal yacht *Maha Chakreri* has gone to Yokohama to meet him, and is expected to pass through Nagasaki on her way home at the end of this month.

MM. Doumergue, French Colonial Minister, and Rouvier, Minister of Finance, have appointed the Committee announced recently to deal with the subject of the adoption of the gold standard in Siam. MM. Simon and Frézouls are on the Committee.

News comes from Corea that a terrible famine is feared in Gensan district, where the rice-crop is practically a total failure. Many people are already without daily food. The crop in the Chemulpo district is abundant, but there the prices are so high that the poor cannot afford to buy it.

The Dominion Government has disallowed three enactments of the British Columbian Legislature. One of these debarred from entering all immigrants unable to write in one European language; another forbade the employment of Japanese or Chinese on works holding provincial franchises; and the third prohibited the employment of Japanese or Chinese in mines, unless able to speak English. But it is also stated that these measures will all undoubtedly be re-enacted by British Columbia next session.

A recent telegram announced that the new loan contracted with the Russo-Chinese Bank was for the purposes of the section of the Lu-Han Railway running to Taiyuen. But later intelligence seems to indicate that a Ching-ting-Chinan road is in question. The *Japan Daily Mail* writes:—We find this second statement difficult of credence. No concession has yet been given, or sought, so far as we are aware, for a line from Ching-ting to Chinan. A road is projected which would follow the route of the Grand Canal from Tientsin as far as Kucheng, and thence pass eastward to Chinan, but a line direct from Chinan to Ching-ting is a different affair. On the other hand, the Ching-ting-Taiyuen road is an originally projected branch of the Lu-Han railway from Peking to Hankow.

The Messageries Maritimes Co. is negotiating for entrance to San Francisco, for the purpose of obtaining part of the trade between that port and the Hawaiian Islands, and Australia, the Far East, and Europe. New Caledonia and Tahiti also will be on the route proposed.

At the dinner of the Union Club, at the Hotel Cecil, Lord Lansdowne said that a closer acquaintance with our new ally since the conclusion of the alliance had led us, and he hoped Japan also, to form a larger respect for each other. The more the great Powers knew that we co-operated with each other, the better it was for the interests of all.

The *Sin Wan Pao's* Peking correspondent writes that the Wai wu-pu was recently informed by Viceroy Tsen Chen-hsuen of Szechuen that he had received a telegram from Yu Kang, Imperial Resident in Tibet, saying that the late difficulty between the Tibetans and the British engineers had been amicably settled by special deputies sent by the Resident. The difficulty referred to in the telegram arose from land transactions.

It is stated that Prince Ching hopes to take a short trip to Japan next year as special envoy for the exhibition at Osaka. With regard to the appointment of a special envoy for the Louisiana Exhibition, it was intended to make a selection from among the Princes Lun Pei Tzu and Ch'en Pei Tzu. Prince Chun was not included. Prince Su is unable to take up the appointment, Ch'en Pei Tzu is understood to be unwilling, and Lun Pei Tzu is now mentioned as the likely envoy.

We learn that the government of the city of Canton has been very much improved recently. For the purposes of keeping good order Canton has been split up into wards and sub-divisions, so that the responsibility for any outrage may be visited at once on the place where it occurs and the inhabitants of each division are strongly, because pecuniarily, interested in seeing that the law is kept. Insults to foreigners passing through the streets of Canton are to be most summarily punished, death being threatened even to the families of those who commit an outrage against Europeans. Recent visitors notice the difference in the demeanour of the people.

The *N. C. Daily News* publishes the following telegram, which is dated Tokyo, 9th December:—Two parties are working together in the Diet, evidently resolved to unite in opposition to the Government for the purpose of coercing the Peers. Thus the situation created is similar to that created early in the sessions of the Diet, when the whole Lower House combined to attack the so-called Clan Cabinet. The real basis of the present dispute is not fiscal, but is a question of party government v. bureaucracy. The Emperor personally opened the Diet with a speech from the Throne. He referred to the growing intimacy of the relations between the Treaty Powers, and expressed profound satisfaction with the timely settlement of the North China complication, thereby restoring peace in the Far East. He announced the presentation of the Budget and various bills based on the policy of providing ample national defences and the essentials for the prosperous development of the country; and he urged that the deliberations of the Diet should be conducted in a spirit of harmony and conciliation.

CHINA'S TRADE IN 1901.

Daily Press, 18th December.)

By the last mail from England we received a copy of a report by Mr. J. W. JAMIESON, British Commercial Attaché for China, on the foreign trade of China in 1901. The pamphlet is of an elaborate nature and extends to 54 pages of the ordinary size of our diplomatic and consular reports. It contains not only figures but also clear-headed deductions from them, and a careful reading will certainly repay the expenditure of time. For purposes of comparison with 1901, a year in which trade in some parts of China had to be carried on under the abnormal conditions arising out of the troubles of 1900, Mr. JAMIESON selects the year 1896, in which commerce recovered from the shock dealt it by the war with Japan. In the interval the total foreign trade of China increased by nearly £9,000,000. Imports, for which more silver had to be paid, owing to a fall of over eleven per cent. in the value of the metal, showed an increase of more than £5,500,000, while exports increased by £3,313,000. The figures for British trade with China were in 1896 £39,103,800 and in 1901 £41,963,620—an increase of £2,859,820. The aggregate of British trade, which in 1896 formed 56.6 per cent. of the whole, was in 1901 only 51.02 per cent., direct imports from the United Kingdom falling 15.9 per cent. Hongkong in imports to China advanced from £15,226,000 in 1896 to £17,798,250 in 1901; and in exports from £9,008,500 in 1896 to £10,664,250 in 1901. India also manifested an improvement both in imports and export, whereas other British dominions shared in the twofold falling-off of the United Kingdom. Of the thirty-nine millions and a half of merchandise imported into China in 1901, 14½ millions represented the value of cotton goods, over 4½ that of opium, 2½ kerosene oil, nearly 2 sugar, over 1½ metals, and over half-a-million woollen goods. Cotton goods have neither advanced nor declined during the past decade, the falling off in one class being made good by an increased import of another. American drills and jeans have increased, according to Mr. JAMIESON's figures, while there has been a marked decrease in Indian T-cloths, and Japanese T-cloths, American and Japanese cotton flannel, and Japanese yarn have increased to a large extent. Nor is there much change in the opium trade. In spite of the steady increase in the cultivation of native opium, the Indian drug continues to hold its place, and the import in 1901 was almost exactly the same as in 1897. The importation of morphia nearly doubled in the last six years, and its use has spread rapidly throughout Southern and Central China. Pills are the common form in which the morphia is taken, but subcutaneous injection also exists. While the main staples of the import trade, except kerosene and sugar, have to a great extent remained stationary, certain articles included under the head of sundries show great strides. Chief amongst these are flour, matches, soap, cigars and cigarettes, aniline dyes, perfumery, paints, and umbrellas. Mr. JAMIESON sees a gradual change in native taste and a tendency to absorb, more and more, articles of Western luxury. The growth of cigarette-smoking, superseding the Chinese water pipe as well as the Indian hookah, is a notable instance.

Turning to the export trade of China in 1901, the total estimated value was over £25,000,000, silk accounting for £8,920,434 and tea for £2,738,355. The figures, Mr. JAMIESON points out, show that the low

exchange has had the effect of stimulating exports from China, and it has been asserted that but for the fall in silver many articles now in the export list would never have found their way there, and that a rise in exchange would cause them to disappear altogether. Mr. JAMIESON, like so many others, points out the damage done to China's export trade by the suicidal policy of the native seller in adulterating his goods; and he shows how the fierce competition of European merchants for the limited exports of China induces the Chinaman to make his little go as far as possible. With regard to the tea-trade Mr. JAMIESON puts forward the arguments with which we are familiar here, and declares the trade, in much the same terms as we ourselves used a few days ago, to be past recovery. As for the inland trade, Mr. JAMIESON points out that, with the exception of the trans-frontier commerce with Russia and a negligible quantity of commodities exchanged across the Burma border, China's supplies of foreign merchandise are drawn in the first instance from Rangoon, Hongkong, and Shanghai. A table of the percentage of foreign imports distributed by Hongkong and Shanghai shows 29 per cent. from Hongkong and 71 from Shanghai. Into the discussion on the *lekin* and transit-pass questions we cannot, unfortunately, from want of space follow the report. We must note, however, that of the former Mr. JAMIESON says:—"There is in China a growing feeling that, could other means of raising an equivalent revenue be devised, *lekin* should be done away with. The total amount it brings into the Government coffers—Imperial and provincial—is said to be between 16,000,000 to 18,000,000 taels. The mode of collection, however, is so radically vicious, and affords so many opportunities for harassing trade that the majority of enlightened officials are anxious to see it abolished."

One of the most interesting sections of the report is that about "Shipping." The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1901 was 64,844, aggregating 48,416,668 tons—including nearly 8,000 Chinese junks, but not the native shipping of Kowloon and Lappa nor that passing through the custom-houses of Mengtze. Taking a comparison again with 1896, we find that the percentages under the different flags were then:—British, 65; Chinese, 22; German, 6; Swedish and Norwegian, 3; Japanese, 2; French, 1; all other flags, 1 per cent. In 1901 the percentages were:—British, 54; German, 16; Chinese, 13; Japanese, 11; French, 2 per cent.; United States, 2; Russian, 1; all others, 1 per cent. "That the percentage of British tonnage should have fallen off so considerably," says the report, "is due to the strenuous efforts made by Germany and Japan to compete for a share of the carrying trade on the coast of China, to the increase in the size of the mail steamers which German companies employ in their Far Eastern line, and to the development of the Japanese steamship services with the United States and Europe." Mr. JAMIESON continues:—"It was not to be expected that we would be allowed to retain for ever our former supremacy in the matter of the carrying trade, but the opposition we now have to encounter is by no means to be despised, and should our percentage of the gross tonnage go on dwindling at the rate of the past five years, in 1926 the British flag will represent 4 per cent. of the whole. It is to be presumed that the ocean carriers know best how to defend their own interests, although to an outsider it is

not clear why, if it pays the German and Pacific mail lines to cater for the large passenger traffic they have gradually built up, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company should so systematically have neglected to avail itself of its opportunities." Mr. JAMIESON sees an arrest of the development of early traditions of the P. & O. Company, which has allowed others to seize what by exercise of foresight it might have had itself. Admitting, too, the strong position of the British companies with respect to the coast trade of China, he speaks with admiration of the determined efforts of the Japanese, and points out the advantages which they enjoy in understanding the wants of native passengers. With regard to the opposition of other Powers, in their desire to foster their own trade, he says that the inducements being offered to those shipping goods to and produce from Manchuria via Dalny, may, at no very distant date, have the effect of driving 150,000 tons of British shipping away from Newchwang. The burden, in fact, of the report is that the energy of Britain's competitors is making serious inroads on our trade, and that we are not making the necessary efforts to counteract these. We cannot prevent the increase of other Powers' commerce, but we can provide that our own shall not fail through our mistakes.

THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

Daily Press, 16th December.)

The *Times* has been publishing recently a long service of articles upon "Municipal Socialism," which, whether we agree with the writer's views or not, must be admitted to be very interesting reading. One of the latest articles dealt with a subject which cannot but attract a good deal of attention in Hongkong, namely the housing question. The author of course treats the question as it is in London, where the issue has been between private enterprise and municipal action; but this issue was touched upon the other day by H.E. the Governor in the Legislative Council, and it cannot be considered waste of time to glance at its history in London. Previously to the institution of the London County Council in 1889, when the Metropolitan Board of Works was still supreme, the housing of the working classes was chiefly provided for by trusts and companies formed for the purpose. When the Board undertook a clearance scheme, the cleared land was by it disposed of at low rates to companies or private builders. But with the advent of the London County Council came higher ideas of the kind of dwellings which working men and their families should have, and from the point of view of private enterprise the restrictions which the Council imposed in its building agreements became prohibitive. "Such, indeed," says the *Times* writer, "was the nature of the restrictions imposed by the L.C.C. that in one instance, at least, the representative of a large housing company told them, 'If you offer me your land for nothing, I won't have it.'" The institution of the London County Council has meant that the formation of great public companies to deal with the housing question in London has practically stopped. The Metropolitan Board of Works, moreover, disposed of its cleared land on reduced terms to the companies, whereas the Council put it up to auction. According to the companies' contention, the poor man cannot be housed decently in London if, to begin with, the land must be bought at its

market value; because in that case the proportion of "land rent" per room per week works out at a higher amount than the poor are able to pay. The operations of the trusts and companies have, indeed, the *Times* writer continues, only been rendered possible in the past by the fact that the great ground landlords of the metropolis let to them large quantities of land for artisans' dwellings at 2d. per foot, though the actual market value might be from six to twelve times more. As the result of the strictness of its ideas as to the housing of the working classes, the London County Council has found itself with a quantity of building land in its possession which no one was inclined to take over on the terms offered; and to meet the difficulty has had to build on its own account and of course according to its improved ideas. Finding an increased reluctance on the part of private enterprise to co-operate with it in provision of workmen's dwellings, the Council went in still more strongly for municipal house-building. Then, assays the writer whom we have been quoting, the more dwellings the London County Council erected the greater became the check given to the further supply of privately-owned property; and the more that Works Department rates of pay and "go easy" practices became the standard in the building trades the greater became the cost of construction in general.

It is evident that the author of the articles in the *Times* does not look with a sympathetic eye on the experiments in municipal socialism of the London County Council, and his arguments against it on the ground of cost (which are unfortunately too long to reproduce here), make out a strong case against the Council's policy. His own theory of the proper scope for municipal action is that its special call is in the direction of providing for the really poor and for people with small means but large families, whom the ordinary landlord does not welcome and who are not allowed in block dwellings, being unable to afford the rent of the necessary three or four rooms; and also in the direction of allowing the fullest possible scope to independent effort for the provision of fresh house accommodation wherever private enterprise is prepared to exert itself, while still willing to accept conditions consistent with the public health and well-being. He concludes this portion of his study as follows:—"The ideal arrangement would be one under which the municipality enforced its legal powers for dealing with insanitary property, and facilitated in every practical way the operations of private enterprise, especially as regards the granting of building sites on the lowest possible terms, and the concession of some further relief in regard to building regulations, only itself taking action where or when there was absolutely no chance that independent action would meet undoubted requirements. Such a scheme as this would do far more towards the solution of the housing problem than the present system of municipal competition, which threatens to leave upon the hands of local authorities the entire obligation of providing dwellings for the artisan and labouring classes." All this, we admit, is open to criticism, but the views expressed, on the whole, are very sane. We cannot attempt here to apply the deductions to Hongkong, the circumstances being in many ways so different, but there are points of contact between the two cases. Here as in London there is the necessity of finding sufficient house-room for an ever growing population—a necessity which will become

still more urgent here if the displacement of a very great number of Chinese takes place under the New Public Health and Buildings Bill; and here too even more than in London is it imperative that the authorities shall enforce their legal powers for dealing with insanitary property. London has been working in the direction of municipal socialism, with regard to the housing question. Hongkong has continued on lines which give the fullest scope to the individual builder and the company. Failure has been the result in both cases, in the first because of too great interference by the authorities, in the second because of too little. What is wanted to solve the housing question successfully is a system which gives neither too much nor too little freedom to the individual builder or building company, a system which does not impose too strict conditions nor yet allow jerry-building.

THE WEIHAWEI REGIMENT.

(Daily Press, 19th December.)

The determination of the War Office to retain the First Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei adds but one more inconsistency to the string of inconsistencies which have marked the history of the British occupation of that Shantung harbour. It would be difficult, probably impossible, to find in any part of British policy, past or recent, another such an exhibition of "lightning-change" artistry. Unfortunately the rapidity with which the changes have been made is not such as to inspire the admiration of the rest of the world. Not long ago Lord ROSEBURY told an Edinburgh audience his opinions on British policy toward Weihaiwei. His remarks were couched in flippant language and aroused the wrath of some over-sober people. But after all, it would be difficult, without recourse to tears over the lamentable display, to do otherwise than laugh at the ineptitude which has been shown by the home Government in the whole matter of our last acquisition in China. The vacillation over the Weihaiwei Regiment is but a small thing compared with the general shiftiness of policy over the use to which the place itself is to be put. It took four years of occupation and the expenditure of about £270,000 to discover that Weihaiwei was a suitable "sanatorium." Compared with this, a few months' indecision whether to disband the First Chinese Regiment, to convert it into a police force, or to retain it as part of our Army, is but a small confession of weakness. It may be presumed that Mr. ST. JOHN BRODRICK's declaration is final, that the Regiment will be kept up, at the strength of four companies. We gave, some time ago, our opinions as to the advisability of having a regiment of Chinese mercenaries in the British Imperial Army, but we are well aware there are many who hold the opposite view about the Weihaiwei soldiers, among these being prominent some of the officers who commanded them during the troubles up North. A strong case has been made out for the First Chinese in the last book on the subject, that of Captain BARNES, which we must allow to weigh to some extent in the scales against the evidence of the past. There does not seem much danger likely to arise from a continuation of the experiment, if it be limited to the four companies of the First Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei. But an extension of the idea could only be viewed with apprehension, for reasons which we have already made familiar to our readers, and which may be summed up in the sentence: China is not India, and the Chinese mercenary cannot be made into the equivalent of the native Indian soldier.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 15th inst. in the Council Chamber.

Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAK, G.C.M.G.
HIS EXCELLENCY Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. F. H. MAY (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, K.T. (Attorney-General).
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Dr. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).
Hon. Dr. Ho KAI, C.M.G.
Hon. WEI A YUK.
Hon. C. S. SHARP.
Hon. C. W. DICKESON.
Hon. R. SHAWAN.
Mr C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Councils).

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the Council resolved itself into Committee and resumed the consideration, clause by clause, of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Health and to Buildings.

Clause 153 was as follows in the Bill:—"No window of any tenement house shall be obstructed by the erection of any structure or fitting whatsoever or by any household goods or merchandise."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that as the result of a consultation consequent upon criticisms offered upon this clause he had drawn up the following in substitution:—"Every window and ventilating opening of a tenement house shall be kept at all times free from any obstruction which prevents the free entrance of light or air thereat unless such obstruction is necessitated by inclement weather or by the illness of any person occupying such house." It would be remembered that it had been pointed out that the clause as it appeared in the Bill would prevent shutters.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR asked if this new clause meant that windows must be kept open always.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied that it would have that effect.

HIS EXCELLENCY remarked that that would be rather hard sometimes, as, for instance, when a bitter wind was blowing during the winter months.

The HARBOUR MASTER proposed the deletion of the words "or fitting whatsoever" from the section originally appearing in the Bill.

This course was unanimously agreed to.

Clause 174, of which the rubric was "Open space or area between new building and hill-side," provided that a clear space of the width of not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the height of the building must be left between the building on the ground level and the toe of the hill-side; and such intervening space must in no case be less than 8 feet.

Hon. C. S. SHARP thought this section might bear very hardly on some lessees of Crown land.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL remarked that the law as it stood required the intervening space to be 4 feet. The new Bill proposed that it should be $\frac{1}{4}$ the height of the building. In the case of any hardship arising it was further provided that the Governor in Council could modify the requirements of the section.

The section was approved.

In connection with clause 186 (limitation of height of buildings, etc.).

Hon. Mr. SHARP said he understood that a number of European landlords had addressed some petition to which H.E. Governor had not yet replied.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR said the fact was not in his remembrance.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL in the same connection said that when the time came he proposed to introduce a clause providing compensation.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR stated that the English laws provided two alternatives in a case of this

kind. They either got compensation or were allowed a certain length of time. It seemed to him a fair subject for consideration whether or not they should adopt that principle.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed in substitution for the third proviso of sub-section 3 of this clause: "The amount of compensation to be paid to the owner of any building re-erected within—years after date of the commencement of this Ordinance for the loss of any story or stories necessarily resulting from the operation of this sub-section shall be determined by arbitration as hereinafter provided." If they filled up the blank with "5" the sense of the Council might be taken.

Hon. Mr. SHARP proposed that the whole matter be reserved; they had already left over several sections for subsequent discussion.

The section was left over for further consideration.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. SHARP, clause 201 was amended so as to take away from the Building Authority the power to prescribe the class of buildings which shall be erected on any land not occupied by buildings at the date of the commencement of the Ordinance.

Hon. Mr. SHARP put forward an objection to clause 221 with respect to its requirements re plans and drawings. According to the conditions, he said, the rural districts of the Colony were not exempted, and any one desirous of building a small house worth \$100 or so would have to go through all the formalities of employing an architect and lodging block and drainage plans.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it might be possible to exempt such houses as Hon. Mr. Sharp had indicated.

H.E. Major-General GASCOIGNE pointed out that such a course would be dangerous with regard to the matter of compensation.

Hon. Mr. SHARP asked if the Governor in Council could not exempt certain specified districts?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY remarked that the Building Ordinance of 1889 applied equally to the whole island as well as this Ordinance did.

Hon. Mr. SHARP thought that was wrong in principle.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said it was very convenient at any rate.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS stated also that the operation of these requirements had never caused any inconvenience.

The section was approved.

The Council afterwards adjourned.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber on the 16th inst. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE G.C.M.G.

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, K.T. (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Dr. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI YUK.

Hon. C. S. SHARP.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. G. W. F. LAYFAIR.

Hon. R. SHEWAN.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Council).

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the Council resolved itself into Committee and resumed consideration in detail of the clauses of the Public Health and Buildings Bill.

Clause 227 provided for a penalty of \$200 for the use or condonement of the use of any materials, in any buildings or works, contrary to the requirements of the Ordinance.

Hon. Mr. LAYFAIR said that \$200 was far too small a penalty. It should be made \$2,000.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR pointed out that the penalty was really a great deal more than that; suppose a man in building a house put in mud instead of lime he could be called upon to remove it.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL expressed his willingness to make the penalty \$500.

This amendment was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. LAYFAIR moved the following addendum to the clause:—"In respect of any offence under the preceding paragraphs whereby loss of life is caused the Magistrate must at once hold an official enquiry."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the law at present provided this.

Hon. Mr. LAYFAIR remarked that he differed. He had asked the question before in the Council and at the time pointed out that section 6 of Ordinance 17 of 1888 only permits the Magistrate to enquire into the cause of death and does not compel him to do so.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR said there were certain cases in which the Magistrate need not enquire into the cause of death, if he was satisfied that it was clearly accidental. Suppose a man walking along the Praya was seen to fall into the water and was drowned it was quite possible the Magistrate would not consider it necessary to hold an enquiry.

Hon. Mr. LAYFAIR thought the addition he proposed would be a good thing, because there had been a great many fatal collapses of houses and no enquiry was held until he asked the question in that Chamber.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY pointed out that the enquiries could not be instituted until the Magistrate had a return supplied and was able to ascertain which he would enquire into. There were some collapses that were due to the typhoon itself. The collapse of the match shed at the Naval Hospital when a man was killed was caused by the force of the wind. There was another collapse at Charterhouse, where a couple of coolies were killed, which was due to the weather and to nothing else. The Magistrate very rightly did not hold enquiries in these cases, and he submitted that the Magistrate had already enquired, or was about to enquire, into every case in which there was any suspicion at all that the death was due to culpability. What the hon. member was bringing forward now seemed to impute to the Magistrate a desire to shirk his work. He did not think any Magistrate had that desire.

Hon. Mr. LAYFAIR said he was not aiming at individuals but wanting to bring forward a general thing.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY went on to say that it was the duty of the Magistrate to enquire into any case in which there was reason to suspect that the death was due to neglect or fault of somebody. If they forced the Magistrate to enquire into every case in which life was lost in this Colony he would be sitting doing nothing else.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR added that the Magistrates did very important work and it would interfere with that work if the Council passed an Ordinance requiring them at once to enquire into these collapses and to defer other important work going on before them day by day which could not be deferred without great public inconvenience, whereas frequently important enquiries could be more satisfactorily carried out after there had been time to get the necessary reports and material for an enquiry.

On the proposed amendment being put to the meeting, it was defeated by a majority.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—Would you like to divide, Mr. Layfair?

Hon. Mr. LAYFAIR—There is no use, sir. It is an official majority.

The clause was approved.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the whole of Part V of the original Bill be struck out. At the time that part of the Ordinance was prepared and printed it was intended to repeal the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance of 1900 and incorporate its clauses in this Ordinance. On further consideration he had come to the conclusion that that was unnecessary and really an unwise step to take. The result had been that the arbitration clauses would all be struck out and in substitution he proposed certain other clauses.

These clauses, numbered 249 to 252, were read, and were left over for further consideration on the suggestion of Hon. Mr. SHARP, who also raised the point of costs in arbitration cases and undertook to frame a clause embodying his views and lay it before the Council.

Hon. Mr. SHARP moved as addendum to section 274 that sections 262, 221, 221, 223, and 224 do not apply to the villages and rural districts in Hongkong and Kowloon until the Governor shall notify in the Gazette or other-

wise direct. These sections, it seemed to him, were clearly applicable only to the towns, and it was bad legislation to apply them to the villages and rural districts. He contended further that it led to all sorts of malpractices and fraud. An ignorant, innocent rustic built his little shanty, costing perhaps not a hundred dollars. According to the provisions of this Ordinance he was required to employ an authorised architect and submit block and drainage plans. He was further not permitted to occupy that house until it should have been passed by the Sanitary Board. Hon. members all knew or had pretty strong suspicions of the blackmailing and squeezing that went on, and they could easily imagine these villagers being waded upon by some astute native very well up to the tricks of the business, who knew the law and went to them and said—"You are contravening the law and unless you square me I will see that you are paid out." The Colonial Secretary and the Director of Public Works had defended the application of these sections to the whole Colony as being convenient, but that did not make it right. With the machinery at its disposal it would be utterly impossible for the Government to see that the provisions of these clauses were carried out.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said it was an extremely rare thing to have building going on in any of the villages except Aberdeen and Shauiwan, which were gradually growing into small towns. In the other villages the tendency was to decay instead of increase. In Kowloon, Mongkoktsui, Taikoktsui, Kowloon City and these places were rapidly growing into fair sized towns, and he thought it would be a grave mistake if they exempted these places from the provisions of this Ordinance. It simply meant that they would develop into hotbeds of insanitation.

Hon. Mr. SHARP said it would always be possible for the Governor in Council to make the provisions apply.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH was of the opinion that if these places were exempted and the houses built without supervision a very bad class of houses would be the result.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY thought that the fears of the hon. member that the poor rustics in these districts would be subjected to any hardship were unfounded. He had had a good deal of experience of what was known as squeezing, and he had never known the Building Ordinance to be used for the purpose of squeeze in the way indicated by the hon. member. No complaints had ever arisen from any of the villagers that they had been harassed by the Building Ordinance, and this Ordinance had really been in force since 1839. It was convenient that it should apply to the whole Colony because they never knew when there would be a development in some village, and it was necessary that a certain class of new buildings should be built under supervision.

Hon. Mr. SHARP submitted that the Government had not got the necessary staff to insure the carrying out of the provisions of the Ordinance.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that was a matter for the Government to consider in its administration. If it became necessary the proper provisions would be made.

Hon. Mr. SHARP added that when he raised the point on the clauses being discussed he had been told that no prosecutions would be made under these clauses in the cases he had referred to. But that was up answer at all. Why make an Ordinance if you are not going to enforce it? It was not good legislation. Upon the passing of this Ordinance, plans would have to be shown of every house.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH said that plans were sent in now and the Sanitary Board had inspectors at Shauiwan, Aberdeen and Kowloon City.

Hon. Mr. SHARP remarked that it was a matter of principle he was contending for—against enforcing these country people coming in here and getting an authorised architect to draw up plans at a cost of thirty or forty dollars.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR mentioned that though there might be no new houses in some of those districts at the present moment very substantial houses might be built there at any time, and it was necessary that these should be built and supervised from a sanitary point of view.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL asked if Hon. Mr. Sharp's purpose would be served if they made

the provisions of the sections not applicable to the villages and rural districts so far as the provisions related to authorised architects?

The HARBOUR MASTER suggested that the matter might be regulated according to the rateable value.

H.E. the GOVERNOR said that was no doubt the crux of Hon. Mr. Sharp's contention.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS explained that the class of Chinese mentioned by Hon. Mr. Sharp did not employ an authorised architect, but got some Chinese assistant in an office to prepare a drawing for them for two or three dollars.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY held that the thing had worked very well since 1889.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS pointed out that the requirement about the employment of an authorised architect was new.

H.E. the GOVERNOR suggested that it might solve the difficulty to give the Governor in Council power to exempt any case.

Hon. Mr. HARP agreed that that would meet the difficulty.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said that in a matter of that kind they might almost leave it in the hands of the Building Authority.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY remarked that he knew one lot of houses that was condemned by the Sanitary Board soon after it was built. To give the Building Authority a free hand to dispense with the requirements of the Ordinance was not safe.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said that the only exemption to be granted would be the employment of an authorised architect.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY agreed that that would not matter.

The following amendment was ultimately drafted by the Attorney-General, accepted by Hon. Mr. Sharp and agreed to:—"The provisions of clauses 202, 220 and 223, so far as they relate to authorised architects, shall not in the rural districts and villages apply in any special case in which the Building Authority shall so decide."

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL the following clause was added at the end of the Bill:—"Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to prevent or limit the exercise by His Majesty, his heirs and successors, of any power of resumption contained in any Crown lease."

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

MOSQUITOES AND MALARIA.

WHAT THE SANITARY BOARD PROPOSES DOING.

Referring, at the Sanitary Board meeting on the 12th inst., to the correspondence that had been laid on the table relative to the extermination of mosquitoes, the PRESIDENT (Dr. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) said: These papers concerning the prevalence of malarial fever in the neighbourhood of Macdonnell Road and the presence of mosquitoes there, have been referred to the Sanitary Board in connection with the measures recommended for ridding the houses of anopheles. It is proposed to submit the servants' quarters, the basements, storerooms, &c., of all the houses in this district, during the winter months, to a thorough fumigation, in order to destroy as far as possible as many of the anopheles that are there. Sulphur dioxide and chlorine gas are the agents we propose using. This work is to be carried out by the Board's officials, and the Secretary has already written to many of the residents asking for their co-operation; many have already replied assenting to this.

Colonel HUGHES stated that the military authorities had already commenced this work in the Barracks below Macdonnell Road, and that they intended doing this thoroughly there and in the married officers' quarters.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—There are plenty of nullahs not trained near Macdonnell Road. I think I am right in stating that a certain sum of money was voted at the Council for training these nullahs some time ago. I see that this has not been done yet.

The PRESIDENT—The Government has during the past two years carried on considerable work in training, &c., the nullahs, more especially in the west end of the town and with good effect. It is intended to extend these operations to the remaining nullahs.

Mr. OSBORNE proposed that Dr. Thomson's

letter, which was of public interest, should be published in the local papers.

The PRESIDENT replied that these papers had been laid on the table and doubtless would appear in the Press, as the reporters had had the opportunity of seeing them. If not, they might propose that Dr. Thomson's letter be published in the *Government Gazette*.

Mr. OSBORNE objected to this, as many of the people did not see the *Government Gazette*, and the original proposal was adopted.

The letter has already appeared in our columns.

CHINESE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

PRESENTATION BY MAJOR-GENERAL GASCOIGNE.

A meeting of the Court of the Chinese College of Medicine was held in the Legislative Council Chamber at noon on the 18th inst., to which the members of the Senate and the students of the College were invited, for the purpose of receiving from H.E. Major-General Gascoigne a microscope which he had procured for presentation to the College. The Hon. F. H. May, Rector, occupied the chair, and the others present, in addition to H.E. Major-General Gascoigne and about twenty students of the College of Medicine, were Hon. Dr. Clark (Dean), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Dr. Thomson (Secretary), Dr. Krieg, Dr. Pearse, Dr. MacLean Gibson, Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and Mr. W. J. Litcher.

In opening the proceedings, the CHAIRMAN said that that meeting of the Court of the Chinese College of Medicine had been convened with the view of receiving at His Excellency's hands the generous gift which, at last meeting of the Court, he promised to bestow upon the Chinese College of Medicine.

Addressing the meeting, HIS EXCELLENCY said—Mr. May and gentlemen, I shall not detain you beyond a very few minutes with what I have to say. I hope that this meeting of the Court has not been called specially for the purpose of receiving the small gift which it is my honour to bestow upon the Chinese College of Medicine; I had no intention of calling a meeting for such a trivial matter as this. As you are aware, last year, when I had the high honour of administering the Government in the absence of H.E. Sir Henry Blake to attend the Coronation of the King, I had the opportunity on several occasions of being associated with this College and of learning something of the working of it. I conceived an immense deal of interest in the College, and it seemed to me that it was doing exceedingly useful work. I therefore thought that it would be extremely nice if I could really show the interest I felt in the institution and its work. I discussed the matter with some of the members of the Court, and we considered what would be the best form the gift could take. It was suggested, first of all, that a prize might be given. I was quite willing, but the objection to that was, I regret to say, that my time is now coming to an end in Hongkong—it has been a very happy time—and that therefore, after I was gone, the prize would probably cease to exist. I then myself proposed that I should give something that would be of practical utility to the College, and it was suggested that a microscope might meet that view. This was considered appropriate, and Dr. Thomson very kindly wrote to a medical association at home, from whom he has got an instrument with which he is thoroughly satisfied. All I can say now, gentlemen, is that if you, on behalf of the Chinese College of Medicine, will accept this little earnest of the interest I take in the College, I shall be exceedingly grateful and exceedingly proud. (Applause.)

In reply, the CHAIRMAN said—Your Excellency, on behalf of the Chinese College of Medicine, I have to thank you exceedingly for your very generous gift. A prize such as your Excellency has just mentioned would have been very acceptable, but I think that all those interested in the College will agree that your Excellency has bestowed a gift that will be of permanent utility to the College. Sir, you have always taken a great interest in this Colony. It boasts of many institutions, but I think that perhaps the institution which will do most for the Colony

in the future is our little institution (His Excellency: Hear hear.) a meeting of whose Court you have done us the honour of attending to-day. We all know, your Excellency amongst us, that a very large and important Ordinance is now under consideration, and I believe myself that nothing will do more to make the provisions of that law, when it does become law, of real salutary effect to the Colony than the instruction of the body of students whom you see before you and their successors who will come up from time to time for instruction in the College. It is only by the enlightenment of the population, gentlemen, that sanitary laws can be thoroughly appreciated, and we look to the assistance of these students and their successors in carrying these laws into effect. I feel sure, sir, that this generous gift which you have presented to-day will be of the greatest assistance to the lecturers of the College in teaching the students, and also of the very greatest value to the students in their studies. On behalf, sir, of the whole College, I beg to thank you again most deeply for your kindness and assistance to us. (Applause.)

Major-General GASCOIGNE expressed in turn his thanks for the acceptance of his gift, and the meeting thereafter dispersed.

The microscope, which is a D.P.H., No. 1, made by Baker of London, is a first-class instrument, capable of the best bacteriological work. It bears the following inscription:—"Presented to the Chinese College of Medicine by H.E. Major-General Sir William Julius Gascoigne, K.C.M.G. 1902."

MAIDEN TRIP OF THE S.S. "KWONGCHOW."

In response to the invitation of the directors of the Shin On Steamship Company, a party of twenty ladies and gentlemen, including the Lloyd's surveyor, Mr. N. Munford, and Mrs. Munford, Captain and Mrs. Goddard, Mr. and Mrs. and the Misses Sefti, Messrs. Bailey, Murphy, Woodcock, Dr. Pearse, and several others, including Press representatives, assembled on Sunday last on board the s.s. *Kwongchow*—a twin-screw steamer of 1,475 tons, Captain T. Austin, R.N.R., the maiden trip of which we gave a description of a few days ago—to inspect this new addition to the river steamer service between Hongkong and Canton. The guests on arriving on board were received by Mr. Chan Siu Ki, the courteous and indefatigable chairman of the Company, and were then shown over the ship. The *Kwongchow* is most luxuriously and comfortably fitted up, and reflects great credit on the enterprise of the Company, and to the building capabilities of the firm of Messrs. W. S. Bailey & Co. Punctually at 5.30 p.m., the *Kwongchow* cast off from the Company's wharf at West Point, and amidst a lot of cracker firing she steamed out of the harbour on her maiden trip to Canton with about 500 Chinese passengers and 200 tons of cargo. A large crowd of Chinese were on the wharf to see her off. She went full speed ahead till after passing Capimoon Pass, when her speed was reduced to half so that she could arrive at Canton at daylight on Monday without having to anchor. Everything worked smoothly, the *Kwongchow* proving to be a very steady boat, and at 6.05 a.m. she anchored at her moorings opposite the French concession at Shamien. On the arrival of the steamer she was visited by a large number of Europeans and Chinese, including H.B.M. Vice-Consul and some Chinese officials, who one and all praised the vessel highly both for her passenger accommodation and cargo-carrying capacity. At one o'clock an excellent tiffin was provided, Messrs. Madar and Farmer of the King Edward Hotel being the caterers. About 80 ladies and gentlemen sat down to do justice to the menu. Mr. Chan Siu Ki presided, having on his right Mr. Johnson of the I. M. Customs at Canton, and on his left sat Mr. Beaton of the firm of Herbert Dent & Co., the Canton agents of the steamer.

There were also present besides the visitors from Hongkong the following:—Messrs. Nielsen, Byworth, Pasquet, Muller, Suidhans and several others representing the various firms doing business at Canton, and the following Chinese gentlemen—Messrs. Pan Pui U, Pan

Chung U Wong Sin Nam, Wong King Seung, Lo Cho Shan, Chung Ioy Tsim, Li Hing Chun, Yueng Chik Shang, Chiu San Shek, Mok Yam Hang, Kong Kwai Un, Tam Kit Shap, How Hi Chiu, Luk Chi Ngau, Ng Ping Yung, Chan Yam Kie, Yueng Kin Cho, Chan Sang Tong.

Tiffin over, Mr. BEETON in a neat little speech, proposed "Success to the s.s. *Kwongchow*," to which Mr. CHAU SIU KI replied as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, I have to thank you for the kind manner in which you have received the toast proposed by Mr. Beeton for the success and prosperity of the steamship *Kwongchow*, and also for the complimentary remarks he has been pleased to pass on her. All of you have had an opportunity of inspecting the vessel and noting her arrangements, and I can say that everything that could be done to make the trip to Hongkong more comfortable for passengers has been thought of by the Company. I think the Company which I have the pleasure to represent on this occasion can boast of having not only one of the finest and most up-to-date steamers on the river, but also the largest vessel that has yet been launched in Hongkong. The trade of Canton is increasing year by year, as the Imperial Maritime Customs figures show, and I sincerely hope that the Company will secure its full share of this increasing trade by giving shippers every facility for prompt business. I anticipate that the success you have been kind enough to wish to the *Kwongchow* will be fully realised. Ladies and gentlemen, I again thank you for your good wishes.

Mr. MUMFORD then rose to propose the health of the builders of the s.s. *Kwongchow*, Messrs. Bailey and Murphy. He said—Ladies and gentlemen, I have been entrusted with the pleasant duty of asking you to drink to the health of the builders. You have had an excellent opportunity this morning of viewing the beautiful finish of this vessel but, not being all experts, perhaps were not able to thoroughly appreciate the design and construction which I can assure you is of the strongest and most solid description, and I have no doubt that for many years she will safely carry, from this City to the great Colony at the bottom of the river, many thousands of passengers. It may not be common knowledge to you that shipbuilding is not a new thing in China and I would not like to say that a Chinaman had not a hand in the construction of Noah's Ark. (Laughter.) At any rate for many centuries wooden ships have been built in China but it is only in recent years iron and steel shipbuilding has come to the fore. The great drawback at the present time, however, is that we have not the raw material at our doors and are thus handicapped by having to import from abroad. When the awakening of China is more advanced and its mineral resources better developed, Hongkong and the banks of the Canton River will become a Belfast and Clyde of the East. And when this comes to pass I am sure that our good friends Messrs. Bailey and Murphy will secure their fair share of the business. Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to fill up your bumpers and drink to the health of Messrs. Bailey and Murphy. (Applause.)

In reply Mr. BAILEY said—Mr. Mumford, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of my partner and myself I sincerely thank you for the kind manner in which you have proposed and responded to the toast of our health. On taking this work in hand we decided to turn out a thoroughly first class job regardless of cost, hoping for our reward in the satisfaction we should give the owners and that the good work put into the vessel would prove an advertisement for our firm. In this we have not been disappointed, the owners having expressed their entire satisfaction with the work. To insure success in a work of this nature it is essential that the owners should have clear ideas as to what they require. In this case Mr. Chau Siu Ki came to us with a rough plan of the general arrangements of the vessel prepared by himself, his captain and superintendent; he had the clearest idea of the company's requirements, so that we had little trouble in completing the design; and throughout the whole work the gentlemen referred to have been of the greatest assistance to us. I also take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the services rendered

us by our staff, especially the drawing office staff for the way they performed their work. Our relations with the owners have continued to be of the friendliest nature and work has proceeded with the utmost smoothness, not a hitch occurring in the construction. I wish to say that we desire no better people to deal with than the directors of the Shiu On S.S. Co. (applause), who have rendered us every assistance, both financially and otherwise. A leading banker, the Hon. Thomas Whitehead, on leaving Hongkong recently, stated that in his 14 years' experience as manager there, his bank had not lost a cent through Chinese clients and that they had found a Chinese gentleman's word not only as good as his bond but better than his bond. Well, ladies and gentlemen, we have found this to be literally true regarding the directors of this company, who while acting strictly in the interests of their firm have treated us in the most liberal manner. (Applause.)

Mr. MURPHY then toasted the visitors, coupling the toast with the names of Dr. Pearso for the Hongkong visitors and Mr. Johnson for the Canton guests, who both replied suitably. Captain Austin's health was proposed by Mr. Farmer, who in return drank the health of the caterers.

The return voyage to Hongkong was to have been made at 5 p.m. on Monday, but it was quite six o'clock when the *Kwongchow* really steamed ahead. The trip home was not marked by any incident worth recording, and at 1.45 a.m. on Tuesday the *Kwongchow* was alongside her wharf at West Point after having accomplished a very successful and creditable maiden voyage. The guests were royally treated by Mr. Chau Siu Ki, who was unremitting in his efforts to secure to his guests pleasure and comfort, and one and all left highly pleased with the very courteous treatment and liberal hospitality extended to them during the trip.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE WRONG MR. WRIGHT."

The Waldorf Company gave another proof of their cleverness and versatility on Saturday last, when they produced the farcical comedy *The Wrong Mr. Wright*. It is a laughable piece, and its mirthful qualities lost nothing in the depiction. The story is wound round an escapade of an American millionaire who chooses for the time being to sail under false colours in the shape of a wrong name. By bad luck the name he lights upon happens to be that of a man whom the police very anxiously want, and of course Mr. Wright, as he calls himself, is suspected of being the criminal. A lady detective and other emissaries of the law are put on his track and some very funny situations result. Needless to say, things come right before the final curtain falls, but the humour is splendidly sustained until the end. Most of the fun centres in the irresponsible millionaire, which role is enacted by Mr. Norval McGregor. In hardly any of the many parts he has essayed has Mr. McGregor been seen to such advantage. His style of acting is entirely suited in such a character. His appearance in it is reminiscent of his voluble Frenchman in *The Lady of Ostend*, which in all conscience was nothing if not hilariously funny. On Saturday evening Mr. McGregor took his audience by storm and kept them laughing on every occasion that he occupied the stage. Mr. William Fitchett, too, appeared to full advantage in the character of *Stuyvesant*, "The Toff," of which he made the most. Miss Waldorf had not a great deal to do as the lady detective, but, needless to say, it was done excellently, and she kept up the comedy in first rate style in her scenes with the millionaire whom she was shadowing, unsuspected. Mrs. Dow-Currier's appearance in the part of *Arbella Clingstone* was worthy of the mirth which it provoked, and as *Wayland Clingstone* Mr. Wilson Forbes filled well the part of the "sky pilot," though his ministerial terminology and tone seemed rather overdone on occasion. Miss Amy Stanley's *Ethel Bonds* was graceful and piquant; Miss Mildred Yorke as the maid, *Tillie Bird*, looked the part to perfection. The other roles, which were without exception admirably portrayed, were filled by Mr. St. Clair Bayfield (*Lieut. Crosby*), Mr. Ernest Macken (*Fred Bonds*), Mr. Albert Goldie (*Det. Johnson*), and Mr. Gerald

Harcourt (the bell-boy). It remains to be added that Miss Yorke sang a very good song in the third act "Why do they all propose to me," and got an enthusiastic encore, to which she kindly responded. The song, it may be remarked, is written by Miss Yorke herself and is composed by Mr. Hal. Lindsay Campbell, the talented orchestral leader. In the third act also there was given a lively folly dance by the ballet.

"ROMEO AND JULIET."

At the Theatre Royal Wednesday evening the Janet Waldorf Company for the first time during their stay in Hongkong undertook the production of Shakespearean tragedy in the form of *Romeo and Juliet*. The result fully justified the venture. Indeed we question if in *Romeo and Juliet* the Waldorf Company do not appear to better advantage than in any piece they have so far undertaken. There was at any rate no dubiety about the manner of its reception, for besides following with sustained interest the play's development the house again and again gave expression to their appreciation of its enactment. Miss Waldorf in the rôle of *Juliet* made a highly favourable impression. Her greatest work here has been associated with the depiction of impassioned parts. Never perhaps has the varied nature of her histrionic talents been better displayed than on this occasion. Needless to say, her acting in the tragic passages of *Romeo and Juliet* left little to be desired, and particularly in the final scene of Act IV did her power as a tragedienne tell forcefully; but there was no less distinction in her rendering of the lighter side of *Juliet's* character: especially was this apparent in the balcony scene and in the playful interview with her old nurse in Act III. Miss Waldorf's *Juliet*, in a word, is worthy of all admiration, and ranks as the strongest rôle in which she has yet been seen in Hongkong. That Mr. Norval McGregor would give a notable reading of *Romeo's* character was only to be premised by the already long list of successes which adds to his credit. His *Romeo* was an excellent study. In the last act his tragic powers were brought into play in a manner that thrilled the audience and evoked enthusiastic tokens of their approbation. Of the other parts especially worthy of praise was the *Mercutio* of Mr. Wilson Forbes, the *Nurse* of Mrs. A. Dow-Currier and the *Peter* of Mr. William Fitchett. The remaining *dramatis personae* were suitably allotted. The scenery and incidental music left nothing to be wished for.

SERIOUS FIGHT IN WAYANG STREET, SINGAPORE.

The *Straits Times* of the 5th inst. writes:—At half-past ten o'clock this morning a serious fight occurred in Wayang Street, close by the Chinese Protectorate. The result of the affair was that two Chinese coolies were shot dead by the police, and a large number were wounded in various ways; in addition to which, Mr. Evans, Protector of Chinese, got a severe cut over the eye. Mr. Bailey had his upper lip cut open and his nose damaged, the Chief Police Officer, Mr. Grove, was cut on the chin, and several policemen were a bit knocked about.

The following explains clearly how the affair started. This morning, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Evans' assistant at the Chinese Protectorate, reported to Mr. Evans that, the previous evening, a case of insubordination had occurred at a coolie emigrant depot—Kwong Nam Lung—No. 29 and 30, Wayang Street, which is within a stone's throw of the Protectorate. Mr. Evans thereupon sent round to the coolie house, asking that the men concerned should come round to the Protectorate and explain what they had to complain of. Mr. Evans's messenger said the coolies refused to come; upon which Mr. Evans went round to the house with two assistants, Messrs. Fernandez and Logan. They went up to the top floor where the malcontents, about 30 in number, were. Mr. Evans and his assistants, after some argument, were at once set upon by the coolies who had armed themselves with iron bars from the windows, and with clumps of wood from the balustrade of the staircase, and bricks. The staircase is covered by a wooden trap, after the style of the

ordinary bathroom. Mr. Evans and the two assistants were imprisoned nor would the coolies allow them to go down. The coolies were headed by a big dark coolie—named Eng Lee—who, we understand, is a *low kek*, that is to say he has lived in Singapore for some considerable time. A messenger took the news of the serious position of the Protectorate officials to Mr. Bailey at the Protectorate, and the latter went round to Mr. Evans's assistance. As soon as he got his head above the level of the floor of the room he was attacked and sustained a cut lip and injury to the nose. Though he did his utmost to get through the coolies to Mr. Evans, he was obliged to go down the stairs, though he would not leave the house.

News of this state of affairs was telephoned to Mr. Grove, Chief Police Officer, who at the moment happened to be in his office, taking the reports of European officers who had come in from outstations. Mr. Grove and the other Europeans, together with a few policemen who were at the Police Court, and some Sikh and native constables who were in the station, off duty, armed themselves and went off to Wayang Street immediately. There were hundreds of Chinese and natives around the house. Headed by Mr. Grove, the police ran up the stairs, and when Mr. Grove got to the level of the room in which Mr. Evans was imprisoned, the coolies immediately went for him, aiming blows at his head and cutting him on the chin. Mr. Evans shouted out that it was not safe to come up and that the coolies would not let him (Mr. Evans) come down.

Just about this time the trap door was shut down, with the police on the stairs beneath. At this critical moment, Mr. Grove sent over to the Police Court for the Chief Magistrate, Mr. E. L. Brockman, who soon arrived accompanied by an interpreter. Through the interpreter Mr. Brockman three times warned the coolies above that unless Mr. Evans and his men were released the police would fire. This warning was given through a broken board of the trap-door, through which the ringleader and several other coolies could be seen and heard gesticulating and shouting defiance. The only reply of the ringleader to the warnings was a laugh and "come on, fire as much as you like," or something to that effect. The ringleader, pointing to his chest and asked to be shot there, and another man made a sign of throat-cutting. Thereupon, Mr. Grove ordered Acting Inspector Connor to fire one shot at the men at the top of the stairs, and Connor at once levelled his Snider and landed a charge of buck shot in the ringleader's right side, dropping him dead at once. As this had no effect, Mr. Grove ordered Det. Insp. Brennan and Sergt. Dunn to fire, and another man got a dose of buck shot in the back, low down. Still the remains of the trap door were kept down, and then Mr. Grove rushed up with a rifle. A big coolie aimed a blow at his head with a pole and Mr. Grove shot him in the mouth, killing him instantaneously. Then all the police, headed by Chief Insp. Sullivan, rushed the stairs and gained an entrance to the room, upon which there was a general fight and the coolies, who apparently had had enough but still did their best to keep back the policemen, were overpowered, and Mr. Evans was rescued. Some idea of the hot scuffle which took place when the police got into the room can be adduced from the fact that every coolie was afterwards found to be wounded, one man having his head so badly injured that he was sent to hospital at once together with the coolie who was shot in the back. The police used sword bayonets, rifle butts, batons and sticks. Each policeman captured a coolie, took him out to the road, gave him a hammering, and carted him off to the Central Police Station; and in this way all the coolies in the room were arrested.

A visit to the scene by the *Straits Times* man, during the last stage of the fighting, showed the necessity for the prompt action of the police. Outside the house were huge crowds of coolie Chinese, whose attitude was not particularly reassuring and had to be kept back by armed police. The house is of the usual type of coolie emigrant depot, with narrow stairs, and two rooms on the first and second floors respectively. In the room above, our representative found the two dead coolies, the floor drenched with blood, and signs all around of the severity of the struggle. The police were

in possession of the house. The coolie who was shot in the back was sent to hospital as expeditiously as possible. Mr. Gentle, the Coroner, was soon on the scene to view the bodies; and shortly Drs. Leask and Fraser from the General Hospital arrived and examined the dead men. The men at the Central Police Station were all badly damaged, one having a nasty gash from a sword bayonet over his ribs, and all the others having broken heads, and smashed noses and teeth. They were not able to walk, and later on were sent to Hospital in batches.

The two dead men, one of whom was the ringleader, and whose names were Eng Lee and Goh Pow, are natives of the Lwee Chew district, near Shanghai, which is understood to be productive of a good many bad characters. The proprietor of the depot is Low Teng Lye. The difficulty experienced by the police in getting into the room is illustrated by the fact that at one stage of the proceedings, a fire escape ladder was sent for to enable the police to get into the room; but as the window was closed with fixed iron bars, and it was thought the crowd might attempt to pull the ladder away while the police were attempting to get in, this means of entry was of no use. During the proceedings, Messrs. Baker and Frankel, who were passing in a ricksha, rendered the police assistance. When the wounded coolies have sufficiently recovered they will be brought up before a Magistrate.

At the inquest last week on the bodies of the two Chinese killed in the above affray a verdict of "justifiable homicide" was returned against the police.

ARREST OF HONGKONG FUGITIVE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* of the 15th ult. says:—

Upon the arrival of the *Hongkong Maru* from the Orient yesterday morning, Detective Freeland boarded and arrested R. P. Moffitt, who was on the steamer's passenger list, under the name of R. J. Murphy. He was accompanied by his wife, and he affected great surprise when Freeland placed him under arrest. The police say that Moffitt is wanted in Hongkong for the embezzlement of \$1,000, and intend to try to hold him until the arrival of extradition papers, which will be not less than two months hence. The accused man has retained attorneys, and it is quite likely that he will be discharged from custody to-day on a writ of *habeas corpus*. The police have no evidence against him, and their only authority for arresting him was a cablegram from Hongkong signed "Police." The cablegram was dated October 20, 1902, and asked the San Francisco police to arrest Moffitt or Murphy, who was a passenger on the steamship *Gaelic*. The cablegram described the man wanted, and said that he was accused of the embezzlement of \$2,000. When the *Gaelic* arrived at this port several days ago she was boarded by Detective Freeland, but he could not find Moffitt. He was told that a man named Murphy, with his wife, had left the *Gaelic* at Honolulu. Moffitt says it is true that he left the *Gaelic* at Honolulu, and he states that he stayed at Honolulu for a week before taking passage on the *Hongkong Maru*. He denies that he has committed any crime, and particularly the crime alleged against him. He states that for the past four years he has worked as an expert accountant in Hongkong and Shanghai, and been employed at different times by several different Chinese and British firms. He claims that the only money he has handled for other persons has been that coming into his hands in the process of checking up accounts. He claims not to know the name of the person complaining against him. Moffitt states that he is 30 years of age, and says that he was born in Australia of Scotch parents. He left Queensland and went to the Philipines, and from there to China. He will not offer an explanation of why he left China under an assumed name. That fact, and the further fact that he changed steamers at Honolulu, convinces the police that he was fleeing from justice, and that he was doing everything possible to prevent his apprehension. It is probable that the company owning the *Hongkong Maru*, which is a foreign vessel, will have to pay a fine of \$200 imposed by a United States law upon a foreign vessel carrying a

passenger between two American ports. Passengers travelling between two American ports on a foreign vessel often pay this \$200 fine to the company owning the vessel; and if this was done by Moffitt it would go to show his anxiety to embark on the *Hongkong Maru*. In his case the fine would be \$400, for he would have to pay for his wife.

The *San Francisco Call* of the same date adds that Moffitt was taken to the City Prison and placed in "the tanks" pending further developments. He at once employed Attorney Peter F. Dunne to secure his release on a writ of *habeas corpus*.

GENERAL CHAFFEE'S REPORT ON THE PHILIPPINES.

Major-General Adna R. Chaffee's report on the Philippines, published at Washington last month, covers the campaign of General J. H. Smith in Samar, refers to some friction that occurred between the civil and military authorities regarding Leyte, and discusses the actions of various officers and the work of the Army in the suppression of recent insurrections. General Chaffee warmly defends the officers, and assumes full responsibility for all that was done under official orders. He says that the various Filipino bands were of little military importance, and in time can be handled by the insular constabulary. Speaking of the campaign in Samar, General Chaffee says that he finds nothing in the written instructions which "was not conferred by the conditions there to be overcome." General Chaffee says the formation of concentration camps was necessary to suppress the insurrection in the provinces of Batangas, Laguna, and Tayabas. He asserts that the civil authorities in some instances aided the insurrectionists, and says: "It was found necessary to arrest and confine 300 or 400 of the intelligent class in order to remove the influence of the miscreants over the masses of the population." General Chaffee requests the removal of a censure that has been passed publicly upon General Bell regarding the orders, circulars and instructions which he issued while putting down the insurrection.

An interesting feature of General Chaffee's report relates to the Moros in Mindanao and Jolo. He says that it will require time, tact, and patience to establish United States authority over all the Moro settlements. In this connection he says: "The sooner the Sultan of Jolo's title, actual or assumed, as sovereign and as sole owner of land in the Jolo archipelago is quieted the better for the situation. Probably there is little doubt that a money consideration would relieve the situation of his claim and his presence and could this be done, laws, just but simple, and so plainly stated as to be understood by the Moro population generally, might be enforced through the Datus upon their followers without much trouble or frequent resort to force. It will be impossible for many years to ignore chieftainships—Datos—and to deal directly with the individual Moros as is done with civilised, Christian people. It will, however, be a long step ahead for the inhabitants of Jolo archipelago when the Datos are independent of the Sultan and recognise the United States as the only sovereign to which allegiance is due and as the only authority empowered to enact laws for the government of the inhabitants and the country; that all the inhabitants are equal before the law; that Christian people have a right to live. These few simple propositions acknowledged, the government of the Moro people would not at all be difficult. But to advance so far will consume much time and may result in national conflict; for the modification of present beliefs to accord with the above ideas will in some cases require that military force be used." General Chaffee says that force has been used only to the degree necessary to make it understood plainly that persons entitled to protection cannot be murdered, and that the authority of the United States cannot be questioned. The inattention of the United States forces, he says, has been misunderstood, and the Datos believe the troops to be cowards and afraid to attack their defences. He says force must be applied to humble their pride and assumed invincibility.

Commenting on other sections of the islands, General Chaffee says that at the time of writing his report the army was on a peace

status. Troops are being withdrawn from all participation in civil affairs as rapidly as civil organisations can be erected. This has been completed in all except Brangas and Samar, where it is expected to be accomplished by the end of the year. He says: "All parts of the archipelago except what is known as the Moro country have been formally organised for civil government and turned over to its officials, thus freeing the Army from supervisory or actual control over its inhabitants or their affairs."

THE AMERICAN-ASIATIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

The following is taken from the *Manila Times* of the 6th inst.:

The absorption of the Philippine Steamship Line by the American-Asiatic Steamship Company, announcement of which was made in the United States several weeks ago, is explained by the latest developments in the transaction to mean that large capitalists interested in the China Developing Company are behind the enterprise. The steamship business of the Philippine Transportation and Construction Company will be entirely absorbed, but the Philippine end of the business will be conducted at Manila by the old corporation. Negotiations for the merger have been in progress for months, but the details of the deal have just been definitely arranged.

A monthly service between China and the Philippines had been operated by the Philippine Transportation & Construction Company. In addition to this service the company owns and operates nineteen steel steamers and barges of 400 tons each. These were formerly operated on the Great Lakes in the U.S. and the Erie Canal and were taken apart and transported to the Philippines for use between the islands of the archipelago. The company also owns a complete modern machine-shop in Manila for general repair work, and has a screw hoist for docking small vessels. All these branches of the business will be conducted as heretofore, the steamship service of this company having alone been sold.

The first steamer of the new American-Asiatic Company sailed from New York on October 25. This is the steamer *Gibraltar*, a chartered vessel. It is the company's intention, however, to build its own vessels. For the last eight or nine years Shawan, Tones & Company, agents of the new line, who have their offices in leading ports of the Orient, have operated a steamship service from ports in China and Japan, such as Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, Foochow, Amoy, Hongkong, and the Straits Settlements, to New York, despatching some nine or ten boats a year. All these vessels have been chartered by the new company and have not taken return cargoes from New York to China and Japan ports. The new enterprise will therefore complete the line by affording an outward service from the eastern ports of the United States to the Orient. In fact the American-Asiatic Steamship Company has not only established a new line from New York but it has also taken charge of the business established in the Orient.

While there is no direct official connection between the new interests, those behind the American-Asiatic Steamship Company and the American-China Developing Company are largely identical. The latter corporation has the funds to complete the railroad between Hankow and Canton. This close connection means, naturally, that the two enterprises will be operated in harmony and especially that materials for the railroad will be transported from the United States by the company's own steamship line.

The road which the American-China Developing Company is building is to be virtually a continuation of the Lu-Han Line, whose objective point is Hankow, which has been aptly described as "the Chicago of China." Although divided from the adjoining town of Hanyang by the Han River, and from Wuchang, which is the capital of the province, by the waters of the Yangtze, Hankow constitutes, with its neighbouring cities, one great centre of population numbering considerably over 2,000,000 souls. But when a railroad has reached Hankow at a distance of some 650 miles from Peking, it has barely traversed half the breadth of China from north to south. It is at this point that the American-China

Development Company will take up the work of construction, continuing the road from Hankow, or, more properly speaking, from Wuchang, on the southern bank of the Yangtze, southward to Canton.

The officers of the new steamship company are William Barclay Parsons, president; D. Leroy Dresser, vice-president; T. Ashley Sparks, secretary and treasurer. The directors, besides the officers named, are August Belmont, C. A. Tones, Cornelius Vanderbilt, John D. Gluck, Luther Kent Vermilye & Co., and J. Crosby Brown, of Brown Bros., are also shareholders. Messrs Shawan, Tones & Company will be the general agents of the line in the Orient, and the company will have its New York headquarters at No. 16, Beaver Street.

THE TRADE OF COREA.

The Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for the year 1901, issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs of Corea, are full of interesting information. Despite the drought of 1901, trade generally appears to be in a satisfactory condition. The west-central provinces were, in the months of June, July, and August reduced by the general failure of rice crops to a condition bordering on famine, a condition, however, which was remedied to a great extent by the supplies received from other provinces and from abroad. It is mentioned that the prohibition of the export of rice which the Corean Government found necessary to put into force did at first have the desired effect of preventing shipments which would otherwise have taken place; but by the reports of the various Commissioners it is shown that the withdrawal of the prohibition did not revive the export trade in rice, the price of that article being then higher in Corea than in Japan. Yet, although the bad season in Corea was conjoined with an excellent harvest in Japan, both of rice and beans, the volume of trade was greater than in any previous year, whether the foreign trade only, or the foreign combined with the home trade, be considered. The value of direct foreign trade (not including gold) was \$2,778,000 more than in 1900, the next highest year; while that of the whole trade, foreign and domestic, was \$3,900,000 more than the total of 1901. If the gold export were added the year 1901 would gain still further by comparison. This record is due to the commercial activity of the first half of the year, which, had it not been checked by the failure of the rice supply, must have produced larger totals.

The three original open ports, Chemulpo, Fusan, and Wonsan, maintain the importance they have always held in the trade of the country. Wonsan, however, in 1901 received a considerable accession to its foreign imports in the shape of goods which in previous years would have found their way to the north of Hamkyeng-do via Vladivostok, but which were driven by the heavy tariff introduced at that port in 1900 to find an entrance in Corean territory. The junior ports have all made distinct progress.

The total collection of revenue amounted to 1,325,414.11 yen, which exceeds that of 1900 by 228,196.68 yen, and that of 1897—hitherto the record year—by 212,245.37 yen. Under the heading of imports there is a somewhat remarkable increase compared with all previous years. Owing, however, to the failure of the rice harvest and to the fall in the value of nickels and copper cash, importers of foreign goods found it difficult to dispose of them, and have been compelled to hold considerable quantities for a better market. Of the exports, that of rice to Japan totalled 1,334,247 piculs, and this was above the average, despite the drought. Of beans there seems to have been a fair, and in some districts an abundant, crop, but Japan having been equally favoured in this respect, the shipments from Corea fell short of those of 1900 by some \$478,000. This, however, is a growing branch of trade, as also is that of the exportation of cow hides, from which latter fact it would seem that Corea is beginning to turn to account her fine breed of cattle, in which, with systematic selection and rearing, undoubtedly lies one of her best resources. The long and narrow peninsula of Corea, with its extensive coast line and, the tidal difficulties of the west coast notwithstanding, its numerous practicable harbours and inlets, is eminently favourable to the growth

of a flourishing coast trade. Railways will no doubt, in due time, run from Fusan to the northern frontier and stretch out arms to the coast on either side, but in the diffusion of foreign merchandise, as well as in the interchange of native products and their concentration for export, the coasting fleet must remain the chief agent for many years to come, if not permanently. It is now the all-important agent, on which depends the existing trade and its future development. A substantial increase is also reported in the number and tonnage of steamers entered. The report is dated Feb. 21st March, 1902, and it is stated that silver ingots to the value of about \$800,000 were imported by the Imperial Mint, but no resulting silver coinage had up to that date made its appearance.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

Macao, 14th December.

PROPOSED BREWERY IN MACAO.

We understand of good authority that some difficulty has arisen in the negotiations for the establishment of a brewery on a site in the neighbourhood of the Military Hospital. The arrangements were being carried out by an Austrian gentleman, representative of a well known French firm in Hongkong, and the difficulty has arisen from the statement of the Macao authorities that in the event of the Avenida being lengthened, and carried over the site allotted for the Brewery, no compensation will be awarded to the Company. Such a possibility is not unnaturally viewed with considerable concern by the promoters of the new enterprise, and it appears that the French Consul at Hongkong has been over to Macao to make a strong protest on the subject, with what results we are not yet in a position to state. In view of the fact that the water of Macao has been proved to be the best of many samples analysed in different parts of China, and that the institution of a brewery would be most beneficial to the Colony both from an industrial and a commercial point of view, it seems a great pity if it does not receive the best support which the Government can give it.

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

The New Governor, Senhor Fernando da Novaes, is due to arrive by the French Mail, and all preparations are being made to accord both himself and his staff a proper welcome. The *Zaire* was originally under orders to proceed to India to-day, but she has now been ordered to remain till Thursday next in order to join in the ceremony of welcoming the Governor. The *Diu* has meanwhile proceeded to Hongkong to escort His Excellency to Macao.

MILITARY REVIEW.

A review of the troops was held on the Parade ground yesterday afternoon in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. The weather was bracing and all that could be desired, and the smart bearing of the soldiers and the proficiency with which they executed their evolutions created a very favourable impression both among sightseers and critics.

GARDEN PARTY IN THE FLORA.

A large and fashionable garden party was given by Dr. and Madame Lello on Friday in the grounds of the Governor's summer residence at the Flora, and was attended by all the *élite* of Macao. It was arranged as a parting honour to the Captain and Officers of the *Zaire*, whose departure will be a matter of the deepest regret to all those who had the privilege of meeting them at the Flora, and to every inhabitant of Macao.

The *Jih Jih* says that H.E. Liang Chentung intends marrying again before he goes to America, and that his bride is to be a daughter of the Chinese Minister to France, whose mother is an European, while the young lady is entirely foreign-educated.

The U.S.S. *Yorktown*, which left the harbour on Sunday last, having recently come down south from Vladivostok and Chefoo, where she has been at target-practice, goes to Cavite, where it is surmised that she will remain several months surveying the different harbours of the Philippines.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 16th December.

FRENCH SPECTLES.

Persistent rumours are heard of late that a French Consulate is to be established shortly here and that *la belle France* has obtained a concession at Swatow; the last piece of intelligence seems to be a canard.

BAD ACCIDENT.

An unfortunate catastrophe happened on board the Singapore emigration steamer *Hong Wan I* during her last stay in port. By some uncontrollable mishap, six men, who were sitting on the upper hatch on the main deck, fell from there into the cargo-hold and sustained serious injuries. Two of them were fatally hurt.

ANOTHER ENTERTAINMENT.

The second smoker of this season was given by the shipping fraternity on Saturday last in the Kialat Club. The British Consul, Mr. B. Twyman, who is ever ready to promote a social function, acted as chairman. A well arranged programme, consisting of songs, recitations and music, was got through with great success and enjoyed immensely by all those present. Special mention deserves Mr. Laing, who in masterly way executed on his flute some pieces from well known operas. Mr. Brackstone, as a comic singer, is finding general favour.

TIENTSIN.

Tientsin, 20th November.

RECENT TOURING

Into the country in different directions has brought to notice several interesting and rather important facts. Over a very large extent of country the rainfall has been so small during the last few months that the ground is exceedingly dry, and almost no wheat has been planted. In the wheat harvest of early June, many fields scarcely yielded the seed, while the yield of others was nil. The yield of the autumn crops has been better, but hardly up to "fair," which makes the winter outlook for the poor anything but pleasant. At the same time the ground is so dry and hard that the amount of wheat planted is very small. Unless there are heavy snows during the winter to put the ground in a good condition for sowing spring wheat, the first half of next year will be a trying one for the mass of husbandmen over this large section of country.

TWO DANGER CENTRES.

While quiet prevails generally, and little was heard of petty thieving or hold-up robbery, yet a suppressed sense of fear and uncertainty appeared to be present everywhere. Sometimes it found expression, but when asked for explanation, there was nothing definite, only an apprehension of something in the future that may occur, or that in the mind of the speaker is likely to occur, the when, why, and how of which were exceedingly vague. And yet occasional, indefinite remarks appeared to point to two danger centres. One is in Peking, and finds its cause in the course pursued by the highest authorities there. It is felt that there is no sympathy with or desire for reform or progress or with the new impulse that has come to so many of the Chinese, even of the illiterate, and that all that is put forth looking in that direction is mere sham. Not that there is any very definite or distinct ideas as to what these terms mean, but a vague sense that China is behind the times, and that there are things which might be done to help her to better things.

THE REPORTS

from all who have made tours into the country are much the same. They find that the Protestant church is more than ever in favour, and a greater willingness and in many instances a desire is manifested to hear the Gospel greater than ever in the past. The people are seeking information; they are beginning to think with more independence than heretofore. Hence the opportunities for Gospel and educational effort are increasing on every side far beyond the power of the Missionary Societies to meet them. There is great encouragement to labour, but the workmen are scarce.

CHEAP COAL.

It is with great pleasure that the Tientsin community accepts the reduction in the price

of coal made by the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. to \$8.50 per ton as against the exorbitant "squeeze" of its agents last year who only dropped from \$16 to \$10 on prospect of Japanese coal being put on the market. When the cost of the coal is less than \$3.00 at the pit's mouth, even this figure does not give a bad percentage of profit when delivered at Tientsin. We are thankful for this appreciative favour on the part of the Company, and hope it may come well out of its snarl. The change in temperature that has come to us in the last few days from the exceedingly pleasant weather we had been having, increases the sense of satisfaction at the above reduction in the cost of coal.—N.C. Daily News.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

DR THOMSON ON MOSQUITOES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 18th December.

SIR,—The very interesting and instructive lecture of Dr. Thomson on mosquitoes and malarial fever must have given food for thought to a good many people in the Colony. My purpose in this letter is to draw the attention of Dr. Thomson to that part of his lecture in which reference is made of *Culex fasciatus*, and the transmission of yellow fever.

Facts relating to the propagation of the disease indicate that the mosquito which serves as an intermediate host for the yellow fever germ has a somewhat restricted geographical range and is to be found especially upon the sea-coast and the margins of rivers in the so-called 'yellow fever zone.' While occasional epidemics have occurred upon the south-west coast of the Iberian peninsula, the disease, as an epidemic, is unknown elsewhere in Europe, and there is no evidence that it has ever invaded the great and populous continent of Asia. In Africa it is limited to the west coast. In North America, although it has occasionally prevailed as an epidemic in every one of the seaport cities as far north as Boston, and in the Mississippi Valley as far north as St. Louis, it has never established itself as an endemic disease within the limits of the United States. Vera Cruz, and probably other points on the Gulf coast of Mexico, are, however, at the present time endemic foci of the disease. In South America it has prevailed as an epidemic at all of the seaports on the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts, as far south as Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, and on the Pacific along the coast of Peru. The region in which the disease has the greatest and most frequent prevalence is bounded by the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, and includes the West India islands. Within the past few years yellow fever has been carried to the West coast of North America, and has prevailed as an epidemic as far north as the Mexican port of Guaymas, on the Gulf of California. It must not be supposed that *Culex fasciatus* is only found where yellow fever prevails. The propagation of the disease depends upon the introduction of an infected individual to a locality where this mosquito is found at a season of the year when it is active. Owing to the short period of incubation (five days or less), the brief duration of the disease and especially of the period during which the infectious agent (germ) is found in the blood, it is evident that ships sailing from infected ports, upon which cases of yellow fever develop, are not likely to introduce the disease to distant seaports. The continuance of an epidemic on shipboard, as on the land, must depend upon the presence of infected mosquitoes and on non-immune individuals. Under these conditions we can readily understand why the disease should not be carried from the West Indies or from South America to the Mediterranean, to the east coast of Africa or to Asiatic seaport cities. On the other hand, if the disease could be transmitted by infected clothing, bedding, etc., there seems no good reason why it should not have been carried to these distant localities long ago. The restriction as regards altitude, however, probably depends upon the fact that the mosquito which serves as an intermediate host is a coast species, which does not live in elevated

regions. It is a well established fact that yellow fever has never prevailed in the City of Mexico, although this city has constant and unrestricted intercourse with the infected seaport, Vera Cruz. Persons who have been exposed in Vera Cruz during the epidemic season frequently fall sick after their arrival in the City of Mexico, but they do not communicate the disease to those in attendance upon them or to others in the vicinity.

The above is an extract of an article published in an American scientific review, over the signature of Surgeon-General George M. Stenberg, U. S. Army. It will appear that Dr. Thomson's reference to the new steamship line that will inaugurate a direct service with the Pacific Coast ports of Mexico, as the possible carriers to this Colony of the dreaded yellow fever, is unnecessarily alarming in nature.—Yours, etc.,

B.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 16th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

LI PING v. CHAN TUNG.

The hearing was continued of the action in which Li Ping, building contractor, sued Chan Tung, contractor, for \$16,000 damages for alleged encroachment on the former's quarry at Matankok.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist), appeared for the defendant.

His Lordship, addressing Mr. Sharp, and referring to a previous endeavour to arrive at a settlement of the case, pointed out that if his client did not get above \$1,000 damages the question would arise whether there would be any costs at all, for the only matter for his Lordship to consider then would be whether the words of the Act referring to actions brought in Original Jurisdiction which might have been tried in Summary Jurisdiction applied here. Supposing that the plaintiff recovered \$900, there was no earthly reason why the suit should not have been brought in Summary Jurisdiction, and the plaintiff would have to take the chance whether he got any costs at all. If he got more than \$1,000 he would probably get full costs. The expenses were enormously increasing day by day, something like \$400 a day. Would it not be possible for the plaintiff to accept a reasonable sum towards his costs? The claim had been exorbitant in the first instance, as arranged by Mr. Francis, and he had no doubt that the mistake lay in charging the value of the whole of the store instead of the royalty. Would it not be well for the other side to do as he had suggested, because there was no doubt that if the plaintiff could prove that they had wrongfully taken any stone away he was entitled to a nominal verdict and nominal damages, and Mr. Slade's client would have to pay his own costs, which were mounting up day by day in the way he had described? Before witnesses were called his Lordship suggested that the solicitors should see their clients and endeavour to come to some arrangement. He thought that if the defendant paid \$500 towards the plaintiff's costs and accepted a \$100 verdict he would be very well out of it.

Mr. Sharp said that so far his client's costs had amounted to something like \$3,000. Would he be justified in advising him to accept \$500?

His Lordship pointed out that if he only recovered \$900 damages he would have to pay his own costs, and if the case went on for other ten days these would probably be increased by another \$3,000. The amount of money expended over this case was infinitely greater than the value of the thing, and he would strongly advise the parties to settle.

Mr. Sharp remarked that the difference between \$500 and \$3,000 was a very serious matter.

Mr. Slade said the costs on his side were about \$2,000.

His Lordship asked them to consider what it was all for. The costs were \$5,000 now, and they would undoubtedly become \$10,000. And all this was to be incurred to settle exactly how much this gentleman had to pay for some granite. The claim as originally made was an enormous claim made under a misapprehension.

After consultation between the clients and their respective counsel,

Mr. Slade intimated that his client had left the matter in his hands to accept the suggestion put forward by his Lordship.

Mr. Sharp stated that the only terms his client would agree to were judgment for nominal damages in the amount mentioned and costs to the amount of \$2,000 of the \$3,000 which he had expended.

Ms. Slade expressed regret that he could not agree to these terms.

His Lordship said that then there was nothing for it but to proceed with the evidence.

At a later stage his Lordship again advised a settlement, and after much consultation and debate the plaintiff agreed to accept \$1,500 in lieu of damages and costs.

The Court adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

SEQUEL TO A COLLAPSE.

J. Coleman Hughes, his wife Agneta Eliza Hughes, and Charles Lena May claimed from William Chatham, Water Authority, and A. H. Hollingsworth, Assistant Water Authority, a sum of \$1,000, being damages sustained by them by reason of the opening and keeping open by the defendants of a trench in the road at the back of No. 1, Lower Albany in so negligent a manner as to allow a body of water to collect and percolate through the adjoining soil and caused the collapse of a portion of the plaintiff's retaining wall. Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, for the defendants.

The statement of claim showed that J. Coleman Hughes resides at Glenealy, Woking, Surrey. The other plaintiffs are his wife and C. L. May, Corfe House, East Molesey, Surrey. Plaintiffs are the owners of No. 1 Lower Albany, Hongkong. At the back of this runs Robinson Road which is at a level of about 20 feet higher than the ground on which the house stands and is supported by a retaining wall belonging to the plaintiffs. In March and April last the defendant W. Chatham as Water Authority opened a triangular-shaped trench in Robinson Road (which is Crown property) immediately behind the house mentioned, for the purpose of making repairs, etc., to certain water mains laid under the road. These operations were personally superintended by Mr. Hollingsworth. This trench, which was particularly liable to become filled with water if a storm occurred owing to its position, was negligently allowed by the defendants to remain open for a far longer time than was required to carry out the repairs. It remained open into the rainy season and when this began the trench became filled with water which was allowed to remain there for several days, with the result that, having no outlet provided for it, it gradually percolated through the adjoining soil in the direction of the retaining wall and penetrated and weakened it, causing it to collapse on or about 12th June, 1902. Plaintiffs alleged that the collapse was the result of the negligence of the defendants for all or some of the following reasons:—(1) That the defendants or one of them negligently allowed the trench to remain open for a far longer time than was necessary to carry out the work in hand, and had the work proceeded with reasonable expedition it would have been completed and filled in before the rainy season set in, in which case the said wall would not have collapsed. (2) That in the alternative, if it was necessary to keep the said trench open for so long a time, the defendants or one of them knowing the rainy season to be approaching should have taken measures to safeguard the said wall by shoring or by adopting some other method of preventing the effect of or the accumulation of water caused by a downpour of rain from getting at the said wall in such a way

as to weaken it and render it liable to collapse. By reason of the negligence of the defendants as above alleged the plaintiffs had suffered damage to the extent of \$1,000, such damage being made up as follows:—Amount of tender for rebuilding the wall, \$900; fee to Messrs. Leigh & Orange for surveying the premises, \$25; fee to Messrs. Palmer & Turner the like, \$25; fee to Messrs. Palmer & Turner for superintending the re-erection of the said wall, \$50.

In their statement of defence the defendants said that at the back of No. 1, Lower Albany runs a public road on Crown land called Garden Road which road is at a level about 20 feet higher than the ground on which that house stands. The said road was almost entirely cut out of the natural slope of the hillside and was not at the time of the collapse mentioned supported by any retaining wall. Defendants further said that the rear portion of the site upon which the house stands was originally cut out of the natural hillside and that the earth exposed by such cutting was at the time of the collapse protected by a face wall belonging to the plaintiffs composed of lime concrete of about 20 feet in height and 2 feet in thickness. Defendants further stated that in January last the defendant W. Chatham as Water Authority commenced to construct and lay in Garden Road certain water-mains, etc., in connection with the water supply of the Colony; that in the course of the construction of such works a trench was necessarily opened in Garden Road upon Crown land in January and was closed and filled on or about 21st May last after the works had been temporarily completed; that the said trench was re-opened on or about 6th June last, in order finally to complete the works, which were completed on or about 16th June, when the trench was finally closed, that these works were carried out in a proper and workmanlike manner without any unnecessary delay under the personal superintendence of the defendant A. H. Hollingsworth. Defendants admitted that on or about 12th June last a portion of plaintiffs' wall collapsed, but stated that the collapse was occasioned by the inherent weakness and faulty construction of the wall aggravated by heavy rainfall, wind, and other natural causes. Defendants denied that any neglect or default of theirs or either of them or of any contractor, overseer, or workman employed by them or either of them in or about the works mentioned in any way occasioned or contributed to the collapse of the wall or occasioned any damage or loss to the plaintiff.

Evidence was taken, after which,

His Lordship held that there had been negligence on the part of the defendants, and gave judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs, the question of damages to be referred to the Registrar.

The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 18th December.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CALENDAR.

Seven cases implicating ten persons were down on the calendar, and the charges included one of manslaughter and two of armed robbery.

A COWARDLY ROBBERY.

Chu Yan was brought up on an indictment which set forth that on 18th November near Shaukiwan he committed larceny from the person by stealing from a boat-woman a pair of jade's one bangles.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. R. H. B. Mitchell, F. L. Marques, J. Walker, H. E. Morris, J. M. da S. Rozario, D. Currie, and E. G. Barrett.

The Attorney-General, Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), conducted the prosecution. He stated in opening the case that on the morning of the day in question the prisoner engaged the complainant's boat and robbed her of the bangles. They were afterwards recovered, and prisoner in the charge-room at the Police Station admitted that he stole them, although he now pleaded not guilty.

The complainant, an old woman, was the first witness. She deposed that on the morning of 18th November prisoner engaged her boat to go to the other side. On the way he ordered her to take off her bangles, threatening that if she did not do so he would "chop her up." She would not do as he told her and he ultimately forced them off her wrists and rowed to Saiwan, where he went ashore and made off.

Prisoner asked the witness if it was not the case that he was her adopted son?

Witness—No.

Prisoner—Did you not give me the bangles to raise money on them?

Witness—No; you took them from my wrists by force.

Prisoner—Is it not the case that I was a boilermaker some years ago and kept you when you had no other support?

Witness—No; I never saw the man at all.

Prisoner did not pursue his interrogation of the witness further, but contented himself with quoting the proverb "Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them."

Evidence was given by a witness who saw the stolen bangles in the prisoner's possession and by a pawnbroker with whom he pawned them.

Prisoner, when asked if he had anything to say in his defence, said he stole the bangles from his mother in China.

The jury unanimously found the prisoner guilty as libelled.

His Lordship characterised the offence as a most cowardly thing on the prisoner's part, and sentenced him to five years' hard labour and to receive a flogging of 20 strokes with the birch within the first week.

ALLEGED BOAT ROBBERY.

Kwok Shing was charged with having, together with certain persons unknown, on the 28th July, in the waters of the Colony at Causeway Bay, committed assault and robbery on board a cargo-boat lying there.

He pleaded not guilty.

The Attorney-General said that according to the evidence it seemed that the prisoner in company with others boarded this cargo-boat at Causeway Bay during the typhoon. They shut up the master in the cabin on deck and then went below and robbed the women who were on board. The stolen property consisted of jewellery and about thirteen dollars in money. The robbers got clear away and nothing was heard about them until the month of November, when from information received the prisoner was arrested as being one of the gang. On his arrest he made certain statements, which would be offered in evidence, and which, if accepted by the jury, amounted to an admission by him of his participation in the attack upon the cargo-boat and the robbery that took place.

In the course of the evidence that was given it was stated that the prisoner had been several times remanded from the Magistracy to police custody. Commenting upon this fact,

His Lordship remarked that though he was not complaining in this case specially he desired the Attorney-General to inform the Magistrates that after a limit of at any rate eight days they should remand accused persons to prison and not to police custody.

The Attorney-General admitted that it was not right, but stated that in this case the prisoner had decided to turn King's evidence, but when it came to the point to give evidence he broke down. In prisoner's statement he stated that his share of the loot was \$7.50.

In reply to the interrogation of the foreman of the jury, it was stated that the charge was not made against the prisoner for some days after his arrest. The police refrained from charging him so that they might make other arrests and charge all the prisoners together.

In consequence of a statement by the prisoner that he had been ill-treated by two Chinese constables to make him tell about the robbery, the foreman of the jury said they desired the attendance of these constables in order that they might be examined with reference to the prisoner's allegations. The case was adjourned until after luncheon.

When the Court resumed, one of the constables was put into the witness-box. The prisoner identified him as the man who had beaten him cruelly with a rattan while the other constable held a sword across his neck. Their purpose was to make him confess about the robbery.

Witness denied that he beat the prisoner or that the other constable put a sword across his neck, but stated that he asked him on the 31st October about the robbery. The reason he asked him about it was that after being arrested the prisoner gave him the names of three men who took part in the robbery. When the prisoner was so interrogated he was not beaten nor was a sword put across his neck. There was no truth in prisoner's statement that he had been subjected to such treatment.

The case was further adjourned till to-day in order that the other Chinese constable who was alleged to have abused the prisoner should be examined.

His Lordship said that in connection with this case he desired to point out what in his opinion was the duty of the police. If a man was arrested he should be taken before the Magistrate with as little delay as there might be—not an unreasonable delay. He should be taken before the Magistrate, say, next day: not much later than that. Then the Magistrate had power to remand him. But in this case it looked as if the prisoner was arrested on 28th October and was not brought before the Magistrate till 3rd November, nor was he charged in the charge-room till the 3rd. That left a man at the will of the police for five days before the matter was brought before the Magistrate. In his Lordship's opinion a man ought not to be kept by the police for five days before being brought before the Magistrate. There were exceptional powers given to the police in this Colony; people could be arrested here without a warrant in cases where they could not be arrested in England, and very rightly so, because there were such facilities for Chinese of the criminal classes to run away; by the time a warrant could be got out the offender had got over the boundary. Ordinance 14 of 1845, section 16, gave power for the arrest of persons suspected of having committed felony, misdemeanour or breach of the peace. Section 21 of the same Act provided that a person so arrested should be delivered into the custody of the police at the nearest station-house, in order that he might be secured until he could be brought before the Magistrate. The object of taking him to the station-house was to secure that the arrested man should be brought before the Magistrate. Sometimes such a prisoner might be brought to the station after the Magistrate had completed his sitting and could not therefore be brought before him at once, but there was no reason why he should not be taken as soon as might be. No man should be kept five days before being taken before the Magistrate. As regards the powers of the Magistrate, these were laid down very clearly in the Magistrates' Ordinance. Section 70 gave power to the Magistrate to remand the accused for such time as he might in his discretion deem reasonable, not exceeding eight clear days, to prison or some place of security. His Lordship was not at all sure that in Hongkong—it might be in the New Territory—a place of security meant the custody of the police. The Ordinance also made it lawful for the Magistrate to remand the accused for a time not exceeding three clear days, to the custody of the police. In this case there were, he thought, three or four remands which were sometimes necessary for the collection of evidence. The accused was brought up on the 3rd November and remanded till the 7th, then from the 7th till the 12th, from the 12th to the 17th, from the 17th to the 21st; then the case was gone fully into on the 25th. The Magistrate no doubt exercised his own discretion as to the time to which he should remand the accused. What his Lordship wished to say, however, was that when a man was arrested by the police without a warrant—he presumed there was no warrant in this case? Inspector Williamson—No, your Lordship.

His Lordship went on to say that then the duty of the police was to take the accused person so arrested to the police station, in order, as the Act stated, that he might be secured until he could be brought before the Magistrate to be dealt with according to law. His Lordship did not know any reason why the accused, being arrested on the 28th, should not be charged before 3rd November—certainly not much later than the 3rd. In conclusion his Lordship asked Mr. A. Mackie, Chief Inspector of

Police, as representing the Captain Superintendent, to note the remarks he had made. His Lordship thought the jury were quite right in wanting to sift this matter, and he would assist them as far as he could in getting to the bottom of it.

FOUR YEARS.

Tang King was convicted of attempting an indecent act and was sentenced to four years' hard labour.

NOT GUILTY.

Chan Tai, a lime-kiln worker, was charged with having at Samsui on 2nd November, together with another person unknown, assaulted an old man and robbed him of \$19.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—H. Varrelmann, G. W. Buijter, S. F. de Jesus, J. Y. de la Bruchollerie, W. M. Deas, D. A. Cordeiro, and A. G. G. Gordon.

The evidence was to the effect that the old man had been at a gambling-house in the evening of the day in question and had mentioned there that he had money in his possession and was going into the country. On the way home he was set upon by two men, who thrust ashes into his mouth and robbed him of his money. Prisoner was alleged to have been one of the robbers.

The jury, after retiring to consider their verdict, found the prisoner not guilty by five to two.

Prisoner was accordingly discharged.

The Court adjourned.

ENQUIRIES INTO COLLAPSES OF BUILDINGS.

PRAYA EAST.

On Monday afternoon, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland and a common jury, the official enquiry was resumed into the circumstances attending the fatal collapse at 45, Praya East, on 2nd August last, resulting in the death of thirteen Chinese. Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Government, Mr. H. W. Looker of the architects, Messrs. Leigh and Orange, and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson of the contractor, Man Wo. Mr. A. S. Hooper watched the case on behalf of the owners, the Land Investment Company, of which he is secretary.

The jurymen were—Edwardo Pereira, Albrecht Wilhelm Schellhass, and Thomas Foyan.

Frederick George Figg, Acting Director of the Observatory, examined by Mr. Bowley, said that on the day of the collapse there was a typhoon in the vicinity of the Colony. The highest recorded velocity of the wind was registered between 10.15 and 10.45 p.m., and was 87 miles an hour; about ten o'clock the wind blew in typhoon gusts.

Examined by Mr. Looker—Witness should say it was probable that some momentary gusts had a velocity of 100 miles an hour.

Robert Kennaway Leigh, examined by Mr. Bowley, said that after his return from home on 16th March, 1900, he assumed charge of the building of the houses on Marine Lot 117 and Inland Lot 431, and was in charge of it until its completion. The deviation from the original plan he did not report to the Public Works Department, because he did not require the permission of the Department to so deviate, the alteration having been rendered necessary by a new Sanitary Ordinance. Under that Ordinance the provision of a backyard was required, and although it would have been possible to construct a backyard and at the same time build the side wall as originally planned, the measures adopted were more sanitary. Another requirement of the same Ordinance was the providing of windows in the back wall, which accordingly were constructed. As built the houses were stronger than as originally designed, because there was less continuous area exposed to any force from wind and rain. Witness recommended the appointment of Maher, the overseer, who he believed, had had previous experience in the building of Chinese houses. Witness himself visited the houses twice a week, and inspected the different materials, but he was not sure if he found fault with the quality of the bricks and mortar. During their erection, parts of the houses were blown down by typhoons—once in September, 1900, and once in November, 1900;

the damaged portions were pulled down and rebuilt. Considering the rains that were falling at the time, witness was sure that the clause in the specifications requiring the bricks to be wetted before being used was complied with by the contractor; he did not know however, whence the latter obtained his supply of water. The water was cut off from building services about Christmas, 1900, but that was after all the brick on these houses was completed. Witness thought that the thickness of the side wall at 45, Praya East, when finished, was 22 inches on the ground floor, 18 inches on the next two floors, and 14 inches on the top floor; he was not sure, however. His opinion was that the collapse was due to the continuous wind and rain which were in evidence months before the typhoon of 2nd August, which typhoon materially aided the collapse. It was very likely that the wind got into the houses. The effect of the bad weather would be to soften the mortar joints. Even if the mortar was good the rain would soften it, and he did not think that ordinary shell lime and red earth mortar could be soaked in water for any length of time without softening it. To a certain extent it was the case that the better the mortar the less liable it would be to the softening influence of the rain. At the time of the collapse the age of the side wall would be about 23 months, and the mortar would be set as hard as it ever would set in reason.

On Wednesday afternoon, James Orange, partner in the firm of Messrs. Leigh and Orange, was examined. His evidence was practically a corroboration of that given by Mr. Leigh at the previous hearing, and he added that he had not formed any theories as to the cause of the collapse.

Examined by Mr. Looker, witness said he had previously planned walls of dimensions similar to those of the wall that collapsed, and he had never known of any of them collapsing. The contractor Man Wo, who was engaged by witness's firm on behalf of the owners, the Land Investment Company, did his work, generally speaking, satisfactorily, as Chinese contractors went.

R. K. Leigh, also of the firm of Messrs. Leigh & Orange, was afterwards examined by Mr. Looker, and said that the houses of which No. 45, Praya East formed one were better built than the majority of Chinese houses in the Colony.

Examined by Mr. Wilkinson, witness said the contractor, Man Wo, had been employed by him on various occasions, and had always given satisfaction with his work. Witness examined the materials used in connection with the houses, and his opinion of them was that they were good.

Following E. M. Hazeland, civil engineer, who was examined as to his knowledge of the plans of the houses when he was in the Public Works Department, and who stated that he had no recollection of their passing through his hands, Anquero Maher, the overseer, was placed in the witness box. He related his experience as an overseer of building work and the occupations he had previously filled, and said he was now the proprietor of a hairdresser's shop in Pottinger Street. He knew what mortar was made of—one of earth and two of lime—(laughter)—but was not aware of the number of bricks in a 22-inch wall. The bricklayer sometimes laid bricks without soaking them, and he complained about it.

By Mr. Wilkinson—Witness complained to the head bricklayer, who had the matter put right.

By a jurymen—He did not personally attend to his hair-dressing business, leaving that to his employees.

Man Wo, the contractor, was next examined. He said he had been a contractor for 25 years, and that he built the houses in Wanchai in accordance with the plan. He himself selected the bricks for the houses, which were built of the Nam Kong brick and the Ming Kee brick; these bricks were slightly different in size. The mortar was composed of one part lime and two parts red earth, according to agreement. Regarding the supervising of the work, witness looked over it every day. The water for the saturating of the bricks was stored in a pond, and was carried by the bricklayers.

By Mr. Wilkinson—Witness did not remember a single instance, whilst the brick-work on the houses was proceeding, when the water supply had been cut off. He had never had any reason to believe that the work was not properly done; everything was carried out satisfactorily—of that he was positive.

Hugh Pollock Tooker, executive engineer, Public Works Department, said there was nothing in the Department that would show where the original plans had been deviated from in the present case. Supposing there had been any deviation, it would be the duty of Mr. Crisp, the inspector of buildings, to report it. Mr. Crisp did not report any such deviation. Witness said he visited the scene of the collapse on the day following the accident, and from an examination of the materials used formed the opinion that the brickwork was fairly good. In his opinion the immediate cause of the collapse was the wind and rain; the wind had probably found a weak spot in the wall that was not visible after the collapse. The effect of the deviation from the plan was to expose to the elements a part of what was originally intended to be an internal wall, but he did not think that that had any material influence in affecting the stability of the wall, though it might have tended towards the collapse.

By Mr. Wilkinson—A window left open on the unoccupied top floor, through which the wind entered the house, would be a sufficient explanation of the collapse. Excepting the bad bonding at the junction of the cross wall with the back wall, witness observed nothing that pointed to a weak spot in the wall. He knew of instances in the Colony where other strongly-built houses had been destroyed by the wind getting inside.

The enquiry was adjourned until Monday at 2.15 p.m.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST DECEMBER.

	1901.	1902.
Below overflow.	Below overflow.	
Tytam	29 ft. 5 1/2 in.	10 ft. 10 in.
Pokfulam	21 ft. 0 in.	15 ft. 9 in.
Wongneicheong	31 ft. 4 in.	38 ft. 7 in.

STORAGE GALLONS.

	1901.	1902.
Tytam	181,650,000	298,000,000
Pokfulam	22,500,000	3,560,000
Wongneicheong	3,458,000	1,057,000
Total	207,608,000	3,257,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

	1901.	1902.
Consumption ...	57,566,000	67,835,000 gallons
Estimated population	211,430	216,400
Consumption per head per day	13.8	10.4 gallons

Intermittent supply from 1st November in 1902 and from 11th November in 1901.

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

	1901.	1902.
Consumption ...	10,273,000	15,933,000 gallons
Estimated population	53,250	59,000
Consumption per head per day	6.4	9.0 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM,
Water Authority.

The *Japan Daily Mail* learns that no doubt is entertained by the authorities as to the fact that the death of Mr. P. P. P. P. at the Hotel de Gênerve, Yokokama, on the 2nd inst. resulted from taking poison. It is also stated officially that the deceased had not entered into any contract with a Japanese factory in Tokyo, and it is also denied that his wife is coming out in the steamer *Bayern*. It is even doubtful whether he was married. It appears that a search of the deceased's effects has disclosed the fact that no letters or documents exist throwing light upon the sad occurrence.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. (CIVILIAN XI.) v. H.M.S. "TAMAR."

When the above match was arranged the *Tamars* specially asked that the Club XI should consist of civilians only, and the Club executive were particular in acceding to this request; it was therefore a little unfair that the *Tamars* should have included two *Ocean* men in their team on the 13th inst. The fact that some of the *Ocean* crew are for the present living on the *Tamar* is but a poor excuse for their action, as by no effort of the imagination can they be considered to be long to the *Tamar*, and indeed the two men in question were playing for the *Ocean* v. the *Glory* on the 11th inst. It would have been little credit to the *Tamar* if Fitch's bowling or Lampen's batting—or both—had won the match for them; as it turned out, however, neither of them particularly distinguished himself, as Lampen in batting "bagged a brace" and, beyond causing a certain amount of physical pain to some of his opponents, Fitch's bowling was comparatively harmless. Ward for once lost the toss and the *Tamars* batted first. A start was made at 11.35, the Club fielding with four substitutes. Stansbury and Coombe opened the innings and Dixon and Turner bowled. The start was a sensational one, as Dixon, who took the first over, clean bowled Stansbury, Good and Donkin with his third, fourth and fifth balls, thus doing the "hat trick." Coombe batted very steadily and refused to be tempted to hit out; his innings was an invaluable one to his side, but, from a spectator's point of view, was decidedly tedious. It looked as if he would carry his bat right through the innings, but he was eventually caught, with the last man in, for a patient 19 which took him an hour and three quarters to compile. Cooke was the only other man on the side to show any form, and his 19 included several good strokes. There were 15 extras, so the other 8 men did not make many runs between them—indeed, no less than six 0's appeared on the score sheet. Dixon bowled very well throughout, taking 7 wickets for 32 runs and Lampert at the end took 2 wickets for 10. The fielding was fair, though sadly lacking in smartness. Lemarchand, who was late, arrived in time to make two neat catches. With the poor total of 76 against them, it looked as if the Club would win pretty easily. Such, however, was not the case, and when seven wickets were down for 29 it looked odds on the *Tamar* repeating the hollow victory of the first match. To say that the batting of the Club men was execrable is to put it mildly; most of them looked as if they had never handled a bat before. However, on Lowe joining Ward, a determined stand was made, and these two managed to knock off the necessary runs—indeed, they were not separated until 103 was on the board. Of the 74 runs added during their partnership, Ward scored by far the majority and, after the match was won, hit with considerable vigour. He was very fortunate, however, in being badly missed by Stansbury in about the middle of his innings and had this catch been made it is almost certain that the Club would have been defeated. He was eventually bowled for 53, which contained no less than ten 4's. Lowe played an invaluable innings for his side and was content to keep up his wicket, leaving his partner to make the runs. Both he and Ward suffered somewhat severely from the erratic bowling of Fitch, who, as usual, was decidedly dangerous. The Club team was one man short, Gray disappointing at the last minute. To show the feebleness of the Club's batting it need only be stated that Lowe and Ward made 76 runs between them and there were 13 extras; the other 8 men only making 14! Good was the most effective bowler, taking 4 wickets for 45 and Cooke at the end took 2 for 13. With an hour and a half left for play, the *Tamars* went in again, but the play was even less interesting than before. Coombe again played very steadily and made 27 in about an hour and a quarter. Parker and Dartnell infused a little life into the game, but the whole side was out for 77. It was too late for the Club to go in again, so the match ended in a win for the Club, on the first innings, by 27 runs. The following are the scores and analyses:—

H.M.S. "TAMAR."		First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lt. Stansbury, R.N., b	Dixon	0	absent.	—	—
Coombe, c Lowe, b Lam-	mer	19	c Ward, b Turner	27	
Rev. E. H. Good, b Dixon	0	b Lemarchand	1		
Mr. Donkin, R.N., b	Dixon	0	c Lemarchand, b	5	
Lt. Lamont, R.N., c At-	kinson, b Dixon	7	not out	8	
Mr. G. A. Cooke, R.N.,	c Lamert, b Dixon	19	c Dixon, b Turner	0	
Lt. Lampen, R.M.L.I., c	Lemarchand, b Dixon	0	b Turner	0	
Surgeon Dartnell, R.N.,	c Lemarchand, b Dixon	0	c sub., b Ward	16	
Lt. But, R.M.L.I., c	Heron, b Lamert	8	b Dixon	0	
Mr. C. A. Parker, R.N.,	run out	0	c sub., b Turner	15	
Mr. E. W. Fitch, R.N.,	not out	8	c sub., b Turner	1	
Extras	15	Extras	4		
Total	76	Total	77		

H.K.C.C.	
W. C. D. Turner, c Dartnell, b Good	4
G. O. Cron, b Fitch	0
J. T. Dixon, b Fitch	4
A. Mackenzie, b Good	4
A. G. Ward (Capt.), b Cooke	53
W. R. Lemarchand, b Good	1
J. Hooper, c Donkin, b Good	0
G. P. Lamert, run out	1
A. R. Lowe, not out	8
Dr. J. M. Atkinson, c Parker, b Cooke	0
Extras	13
Total	103

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.M.S. "TAMAR."		First Innings.		Second Innings.	
		O.	M.	R.	W.
Dixon	19	8	32	7	10
Turner	7	3	10	—	7
Mackenzie	6	3	10	—	—
Lamert	5.4	2	10	2	6
Lemarchand	—	—	—	—	3
Ward	—	—	—	—	5
H.K.C.C.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Fitch	12	2	23	2	—
Good	13	3	45	4	—
Cooke	2	—	13	2	—

CIVIL SERVICE C.C. v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

This match played on the 13th inst. resulted in a well deserved win for the Civil Service C.C., which club is now beginning to feel its feet. The wicket was a treacherous one, of which fact the bowlers on both sides fully availed themselves. Batting first, the Civil Servants scored 53. Brett and Witchell alone reaching double figures, but Woolley showed a sound defence. Brown and Horton bowled admirably, the former having a most puzzling delivery, but their bowling analysis was misleading. With more good work by Brett, aided by really good fielding all round, the home team were disposed of for 31, thereby losing their first match by 22 runs. The victors are to be congratulated upon their win. Score:—

CIVIL SERVICE C.C.	
R. S. Witchell, c Basa, b Brawn	22
P. T. Lamble, c Lamert, b Brawn	0
L. E. Brett, c Basa, b Brawn	13
B. Craig, c Rapp, b Horton	7
W. Woolley, c and b Brawn	5
R. Brown, b Horton	0
U. A. Farrell, not out	1
J. Knight, b Horton	0
W. Goldenberg, c Basa, b Horton	0
A. Carter, c Asger, b Horton	1
W. Haggard, b Horton	0
Extras	4
Total	53

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.	
W. E. Asger, c Brown, b Lamble	5
J. P. Jordan, b Lamble	2
A. O. Brawn, c Knight, b Brett	0
L. Lamert, b Brett	0
B. Basa, b Lamble	0
L. E. Rose, b Lamble	5
E. R. Horton, c Brown, b Brett	3
J. L. Stuart, not out	13
E. Ford, c Farrell, b Brett	0
W. Hartman, b Lamble	0
F. Rapp, b Brett	2
Extras	1
Total	31

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Brett	6	1	14	5	—
Lamble	6	2	16	5	—

FOOTBALL.

The Hongkong Football Club met a team from the *Glory* at Happy Valley on Saturday last, playing under Rugby rules. The weather was fine, and the spectators were numerous, amongst those in the stand being H.E. the Governor.

Not all the Club's team were punctually on the ground, and in consequence the start was delayed. With the arrival of the late ones came the referee's call, and the game commenced. It was a hard struggle on both sides, but victory went to neither, the result being a draw—nothing scored. From a spectator's point of view the match was not so interesting as that the previous week between the Club and the *Ocean*, being played throughout almost entirely by the forwards of the opposing sides. In this branch of the game the *Glory* forwards, with their good combination, appeared to much better advantage than did any other team the Club has had to face this season. Their footwork in the loose brought them through with the ball time and again. The Club in this respect appeared to be particularly weak, owing to the slowness of their forwards in coming round. This deficiency was perhaps chiefly due to want of condition, but it threw by far too much defensive work on the Club's outsiders. With regard to individual play, the best man on the field was Hallifax, whose brilliant efforts were conspicuous all through the game, in spite of the marked attention paid him by the *Glory* forwards. Of the *Glory*s, Crossmann made an impression by his splendid kicking, and the forwards, headed by Morris and Turle, played well together, whilst outside the scrum Sherbrooke, Crossmann Sartorius, and the full back, did equally well. With the exception of the one weakness already mentioned, the Club showed up to advantage. Their forwards worked hard and skilfully. Hallett played a plucky game; as a half-back, however, he is inclined to stick to the ball too long. Jordan, in the same capacity, ably partnered Hallett, and made one or two very good runs, but unfortunately for his side he did not get rid of the ball before he was collared. Pearce, at three-quarter back, contributed his usual hard game especially on the defensive side, where he saved continually. A little more combined play by the forwards and some running and passing practices for the outsiders should soon work the Club team into a very hot lot.

H.K.F.C. v. H.M.S. "GLORY."

These teams met in a friendly match at Happy Valley on Tuesday afternoon, when the following players lined up:—

Club.—Hickling, goal; Holmes and Bonnar, backs; Macdonald, Kew, and Kerr, halves; Lemarchand, Liband, Cropper, Rutherford, and Cooke, forwards.

Glory.—Morgan, goal; Uquhart and Booth, backs; King, Crossman, and Wade, halves; Cottell, Cornaby, Moore, Milford, and Chambers, forwards.

Referee—Mr. F. Browne.

The Club kicked off, and opened with a shot at the *Glory*'s goal, failing, however, to find the mark. Throughout the first half the game lay with the Club, the *Glory*, from whom better things were expected, making a comparatively poor exhibition. They were able to stave off the attacks of their opponents, nevertheless, and at half-time neither side had scored.

The second half was in progress but a short time when the Club outwitted Morgan, over whose hand the ball skidded and dropped into the net. The sailors now showed up considerably better, and had hard luck in not equalising, their repeated peppering of Hickling's position entitling them, in the opinion of the spectator, to the equaliser. They managed to get the ball through once, but from off-side, and consequently gained nothing by their effort.

The match ended in a win for the Club by one goal to nil.

SHIELD TIES.

The draw on Tuesday for the Shield Competition, in which fourteen teams have entered, resulted as follows:—

FIRST ROUND.

- H.M.S. *Ocean*, bye; H.M.S. *Pique*, bye.
 1 B Co. Sherwood Foresters v. E Co. Sherwood Foresters.
 2 H Co. Sherwood Foresters v. 80th Co. R.A.
 3 Hongkong Football Club v. H.M.S. *Glory*
 4 V.R.C. v. 78th Co. R.A.
 5 Royal Engineers v. Ordnance.
 6 G Co. Sherwood Foresters v. H.M.S. *Argonaut*.

First round to be played off on or before 31st January, 1903.

SECOND ROUND.

- 1 Winner of tie 3 v. winner of tie 2.
 2 Winner of tie 5 v. winner of tie 1.
 3 Winner of tie 6 v. winner of tie 4.
 4 H.M.S. *Pique* v. H.M.S. *Ocean*.

THIRD ROUND.

- 1 Winner of tie 3 v. winner of tie 2.
 2 Winner of tie 1 v. winner of tie 4.

The first-mentioned team in each tie has choice of ground and must provide ball. Representatives will meet after the first round has been completed.

HONGKONG.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd has been appointed Secretary of the Squatters' Board, and Mr. G. H. Wakeman Assistant Secretary.

The cases of communicable disease notified as occurring in the Colony last week were:—Cholera 2 (Chinese), both fatal; diphtheria 1 (European, in the Harbour); enteric fever 2 (European).

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.M. the King has approved the reappointment of the Hon. Wei Yuk as an Un-official Member of the Legislative Council.

A Chinaman attempted to drown himself in the harbour on Sunday last, but was rescued in time and sent to the Government Civil Hospital for treatment. He is believed to be insane.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 14th December were 288 non-Chinese and 70 Chinese to the former, and 106 non-Chinese and 2,093 Chinese to the latter institution.

On Sunday night the steam-launch *Ut Sam* ran into and sank in Kowloon Bay a sampan on board which were a native family. They were thrown into the water, but were rescued by a boat from H.M.S. *Wivern*.

On Saturday last the roof of No. 1, Caine Road, a house under construction, collapsed, injuring seriously one native, who was buried in the ruins, and slightly bruising and shaking three others. The first man had a narrow escape. The collapse caused much fright amongst the Chinese living in the vicinity.

A most enjoyable smoking concert, organised by Mr. D. Doyle, Hon. Sec. S. Patrick's Club, and given by the *Ocean* variety troupe was held in S. Patrick's Hall on Saturday last, the 13th inst., the hall being filled to overflowing. The chair was ably filled by Mr. Wilkinson. The artistes of the *Ocean* Variety Club, assisted by Messrs. Burgess, Robius and Rogers, contributed to the harmony of the evening. A well merited *encore* was given Mr. Carroll for his wonderful display with cutlass, tomahawks, etc. The other artistes were also heartily applauded, and the concert terminated at 11.30 p.m. by singing "God Save the King."

At a meeting of the Perseverance Lodge of Hongkong, No. 1165 E.C., held on Tuesday evening, Brother A. H. Bottenheim was regularly installed as Master of the Lodge for the ensuing twelve months. The ceremony was performed by the Deputy District Grand Master, R. W. Bro. E. C. Ray, assisted by the officers of the District Grand Lodge W. Bro. Bottenheim then invested his officers as follows:—I.P.M., Wor. Bro. W. H. Wickham; S.W., Bro. E. H. Hinds; J.W., Bro. C. A. Melbourne; Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. A. J. Dexter, R.V.; Treasurer, Bro. A. R. Lowe; Secretary, Wor. Bro. Francis Clark, P.M.; S.D., Bro. E. H. Sharp; J.D., Bro. W. A. Sims; D.C., Bro. J. W. C. Bonnar; Organist, Bro. H. Hursthouse; I.G., Bro. E. A. Bonner; Tyler, Bro. J. Vanstone; Stewards, Bros. G. M. Young and A. Forbes. There was a large assemblage of visitors, including His Excellency R.W. Bro. Sir Henry Arthur Blake, D.G.M., Jamaica; R.W. Bro. C. G. Robinson, R.N., Deputy D.G.M., Malta, and Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of the other local lodges.

A Chinese youth of 16 years fell from the roof of No. 4, Fat Hing Street on to the first floor of No. 6 on Sunday last, and sustained injuries from which he died in the Tung Wah Hospital.

An old Chinaman of 68 years has been admitted to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries received through his being knocked down at Tsat Tsze Mui by a trap driven by another Chinese.

The O. & O. s.s. *Caelic*, which arrived here early Wednesday morning, took from San Francisco treasure to the value of \$500,000. Among the passengers who arrived here is Ho Yow, formerly Chinese Consul at San Francisco, who is accompanied by his wife, family, and secretaries. With him also is Mr. W. B. Curtis, who is associated with Ho Yow in the latter's new steamship enterprise.

H.E. Senhor Arnaldo de Novais, the new Governor of Macao, arrived on Monday night by the French mail s.s. *Laos*, accompanied by his wife, son, two daughters, and his aide-de-camp. Admiral Bridge sent an aide-de-camp on board the *Laos* to convey his compliments to Senhor Novais, and Tuesday morning the latter's aide-de-camp was despatched to return the Admiral's courtesy. His Excellency was too fatigued by his long journey to accept an invitation to dine on Tuesday evening at Government House, but called upon the Governor in the course of the day. His Excellency and party landed on Tuesday morning at 9.30 and proceeded to the Hongkong Hotel. The party who went on board the mail steamer to welcome him were Senhor Conselheiro Romanc, Consul-General for Portugal, Commander Azevedo of the gunboat *Diu*, Mr. J. J. Leiria, Vice-Consul for Brazil, and Lieutenants Alcibia and Santos (A.D.C.), expressly sent by the Macao Government. H.E. and party left for Macao on Wednesday on the gunboat *Diu*.

In the Supreme Court on the 13th inst., Mr. Francis Oswald Edlin, barrister-at-law, was introduced to the Bench. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, introducing Mr. Edlin, said he would be a welcome acquisition to the circle of advocates practising in Hongkong. Mr. Edlin was admitted a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Judicature in England in March, 1882. He was called to the Bar, Middle Temple, in 1890. He had held the appointment of Queen's Advocate of Lagos and Attorney-General of Fiji. For eight months he was Acting Chief Justice of Lagos and subsequently, shortly after his arrival in Fiji, acted as Chief Justice. During the time Mr. Edlin was in Lagos he was appointed by Sir Henry McCallum, K.C.M.G. (the present Governor of Natal), Chairman of a Commission to enquire into the trade of the Colony. On one occasion, too, he had administered the Government of Lagos as Deputy for the Governor. Mr. Edlin had also held the appointment of District Commissioner of the Gold Coast and had been Crown Prosecutor on two occasions and Acting Puisne Judge. The CHIEF JUSTICE (Sir William M. Goodman), in granting Mr. Edlin admission to the Bar, cordially welcomed him and stated that his experience as a solicitor and a barrister and in the many Colonial offices he had held would make him a very valuable acquisition to the local Bar. Mr. EDLIN in a few words acknowledged the welcome extended to him and was afterwards introduced to his fellow-barristers.

The apprentices of the U.S.S. *Kentucky* gave an enjoyable banquet and "smoker" to the apprentices and apprentice petty officers of the U.S. fleet in this harbour, at Bay View Hotel on last Saturday.

The Portuguese gunboat *Diu* arrived on Saturday last from Macao. Sunday the U.S. gunboats *Helena*, *Vicksburg*, and *Yorktown* left for Manila.

H.M. battleship *Goliath* arrived on Monday from Amoy. The U.S. flagship *Kentucky* left for Manila and the German gunboat *Tiger* for Canton on Monday.

The British sloops *Algerine* and *Phoenix* left on Tuesday for Canton Wednesday the British cruiser *Cressy* left for a cruise, the U.S. cruiser *New Orleans* for Manila, the Portuguese gunboat *Diu* for Macao, and the British cruiser *Eclipse* for practice. H.M.S. *Talbot* arrived from Canton Wednesday.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Shanghai A.D.C. gave a performance of *Iolanthe* at the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday.

The *Hoku-un Maru*, a steamer of 207 tons, caught fire and sank on the 3rd, off Okushiri-shima, Japan. Out of 30 on board, the captain and 11 others were saved.

Three Russian soldiers have been killed and 60 others, including three officers, more or less seriously injured, in an accident on the Chinese Eastern Railway.

The Koshiji temple lately burnt down at Kyoto, Japan, was begun in 1785, and took fifty years to build. It would cost at least two million yen to replace it.

On the 1st inst. a Chinese lad, eight years of age, died at Saigon of hydrophobia after having been bitten by a mad dog on the 11th November. He underwent the Pasteur treatment.

Tonkin papers to hand report the arrival of Grand Duke Cyrille of Russia, who reached Haiphong in the Russian cruiser *Ameral Nakimoff*. Admiral Bayle, commanding the French squadron in the Far East, has also arrived there. They proceed to the Exposition. Admiral Evans of the U.S. Navy, and Admiral Bridge have expressed their intention of paying the Exposition a visit. Warren's Circus is in Hanoi giving daily performances.

One of the most prominent features of the adjuncts to the Osaka Exhibition will be a religious festival, involving the assembly of ten thousand Buddhist priests at Tennoji Temple to commemorate the thirteen-hundredth anniversary of the death of Prince Shotoku. This will be only the second time that such a ceremony has been held in Japan; the first being celebrated at Nara, twelve centuries ago, when Empress Koken inaugurated the famous Daibutsu, the great image of gilt bronze. When its construction was completed, the Empress invited ten thousand Buddhist priests to perform a grand, solemn religious service to commemorate the occasion. Already over twenty thousand priests from all parts of Japan have sent in their names to join the coming festival.

An aged foreigner was found unconscious on the morning of the 7th inst. at Shimidzu Nan-yen, Kyoto, Japan. Notice was at once given to the Police Station, and several police constables, and doctors repaired quickly to the place. The man had apparently taken poison, and antidotes were therefore administered, with the result that he was resuscitated; but he succumbed very soon afterwards. It is stated the unfortunate man had been seen about Kyoto for three or four days, but nothing has been ascertained as to the hotel at which he stayed. No money was found upon him, but there were a number of papers in his possession, mostly in Russian, one paper bearing the name of Mr. Robert Young, Editor of the *Kobe Chronicle*, and another with the address a Russian of resident on the west coast of Japan.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 4th December:—Re-reels.—The very small stock is held very firmly at \$845 for Nos. 1 and 2, average price, but no business has resulted so far. Filatures.—Purchases of the fortnight for Europe amount to about 1,800 bales, comprising all grades and sizes. The steady advance in prices has been only partially discounted by the drop in exchange. Most of reellers having sold out their stock, and moreover contracted their production for some time to come, ask now extremely high prices and further business is checked. Top prices reported as paid are: \$1,120 for Kwong Yuen On 9/11 and Luen Fat Cheong 9/11, \$1,040 for Miu Lun On 10/12, \$1,35 for Shun Kee 11/13 and \$1,030 for Kwong Wo Hing 11/13. Best 3me order 11/13, 13/15 has been paid up to \$905. Short-reel.—Transactions have been very numerous during the earlier part of the fortnight, about 600 bales having been bought, and top prices paid are: \$990 for Kwong Shan Cheong 14/16, \$980 for Kwong Wo Hing 14/16 and \$900 for Quan Wo Hing 14/16 drs. Waste.—Holders have advanced their rates in accordance with the decline in exchange. However buyers did not respond and the market remained quiet. The only sale heard of is Extra selected opened at \$136.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—Upward tendency continues, market being brisk.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.20 to \$8.25 per cwt.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.78 to 7.90 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	6.15 to 6.20 "
Do. " 2, Brown	5.95 to 5.98 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.12 to 8.15 "
Do. No. 1, White.....	7.70 to 7.75 "
Do. " 1, Brown	5.85 to 5.90 "
Do. " 2, Brown	5.75 to 5.80 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.15 to 12.20 "
Shekloong "	9.60 to 9.65 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—Prices are advancing, holders being firm.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.50 to 3.55
" Round, Good quality	4.62 to 4.65
" Long	4.75 to 4.78
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.70 to 3.75
" Garden, " No. 1	4.32 to 4.35
" White	4.82 to 4.85
" Fine Cargo	4.95 to 5.00

COALS.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—Owing to short stock of Japanese, market continues firm. Prices have slightly improved.

Hardiff.....	\$18.00 ex ship
Australian	\$10.00 to \$11.00 nominal
Yubari Lump	\$12.00 to 12.50 ex godown nominal
Miki Lump.....	\$10.00 ex ship, nominal
Moji Lump	\$6.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double	10.50 ex godown
screened	"
Hongay Lump.....	8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust	6.00 "
Briquettes	16.00 "

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—Moderate business at last rates in superior quality. Stock, about 1,700 bales.

Bombay,	21.50 to 23.50 picul,
Bengal (New), Rangoon,	22.50 to 25.00 "
and Dacca,	"
Shanghai and Japanese,	26.00 to 26.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,	26.00 to 26.50 "
Sales:—	525 bales.

YARN.

Mr P. Eduljee says in his report, dated Hongkong, 19th December:—Demand from the country still holds off and the prospects of an improvement in the interior before China New Year are very remote. With the exception of the small wants of the city, business during the first portion of the interval had been insignificant, and as exchange continued to recede the market almost came to a standstill. The anxiety of some large importers to quit, however, could not withstand the unusual inactivity any longer, and anticipating a reaction in exchange, a concession of 50 cents to a dollar per bale was submitted to, with the result that close upon 6,000 bales have changed hands subsequently as particularised at foot. The enquiry was at first chiefly confined to No. 10s., but No. 20s. soon attracted the attention of dealers by the scarcity, and sales of favourite superior tickets have been effected at a small advance. With small receipts and comparatively larger off-takes, our estimate of stocks shows a small decrease on last figures and the market close dull and declining in sympathy with lower advances from Bombay.

Local Manufacture:—The firmness of the local mill has more or less checked business, but a fair demand has been experienced and sales of 300 bales No. 10s. at \$97 and 125 bales No. 12s. at \$90 have been effected.

Japanese Yarn:—Quotations are maintained, and sales of 450 bales Settsu No. 20s. at \$126 are reported. Delivery four to six weeks.

Raw Cotton:—In Indian descriptions there is a continued absence of demand from Japan which, with her stocks and the direct shipments of the past few months, would appear to be well supplied. Despite small arrivals the country markets are unresponsive, and the local mill is not buying. Rates have declined half to one dollar per picul, at which reduction only some 50 bales Superfine Bengal at from \$24 to \$23 could be placed, leaving a stock of 1,700 bales on the market. A small business in China Cotton has been reported and sales of about 300 bales (small) at from \$26 to \$26 are reported. Stock about 500 bales. Quotations are Indian \$22 to \$24 and China \$26 to \$27.

Exchange:—Bar silver has steadied considerably during the interval and shows a rise of $\frac{1}{16}$. Rupees having touched 120 closes to-day at Rs. 118 for T/T and Rs. 118 for Post. On Shanghai at 71 and on Japan 30 per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 6th instant, viz.:—

Indian:—The feeling has been considerably weaker and sales of only 2,048 bales at a decline of half to one tael could be induced, the bulk of the business being confined to No. 10s. Estimated unsold stock about 40,000 bales.

Japanese:—Enquiries for these has also slackened, about 1,400 bales changing hands at Tls. 88 to 92 for No. 16s., and Tls. 92 to 95 for No. 20s., prices remaining unchanged.

Local:—Total sales about 1,200 bales on the basis of Tls. 81 to 83 for No. 12s., Tls. 82 to 84 for No. 14s., and Tls. 84 to 85 for No. 16s., market closing weak.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 19th December.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 84.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.77
9 to 10 lbs.	3.85 to 5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.80 to 2.90
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 3.45
64 to 66 "	3.55 to 5.35
Fine	5.40 to 7.85
Book-folds	4.55 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.75 to 1.40
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.90 to 2.15
7lbs. (32 ")	2.20 to 2.50
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	2.25 to 2.40
7lbs. (32 ")	3.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.20 to 3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/2 "	4.20 to 6.90
to 14 lbs. }	

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs }	1.50 to 4.85
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Brocades—Dyed

DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted	per yard
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.27 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.23 to 0.28

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.39 to 5.00

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.65 to 2.25
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.85 to 8.25
Assorted	7.00 to 9.40
Camlets—Assorted	15.50 to 34.00
Lastings—30 yd., 31 inches }	12.50 to 17.00
Assorted	"
Orleans—Plain	10.00 to —
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.65 to 0.80
Fine quality,	1.40 to 2.10

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	4.70 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.70 to —
Swedish Bar	4.75 to —
Small Round Rod	5.00 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.,	6.40 to —
Wire, 16/25,	9.30 to —
Old Wire Rope	3.50 to —
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.35 to —
Australian	8.35 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Composition Nails	61.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00 to —
Tin	83.50 to —

Tin-Plates

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver	18.00 to —
Window Glass	5.75 to —
Kerosene Oil	3.00 to —

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Benlomond (str.), Teenkai (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Oopack (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Hyson (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Ulysses (str.), Pelus (str.), Antenor (str.), Benlomond (str.), Teenkai (str.), Glenloch (str.), Malacca (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Tydeus (str.).

FOR AMSTERDAM.—Oopack (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Malacca (str.), Oopack (str.), Teenkai (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Tonkin (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Alesia (str.), Wurzburg (str.), Nurnberg (str.), Silesia (str.), C. Ferd. Laeisz (str.), Strassburg (str.).

FOR GENOA.—Benlomond (str.), Alesia (str.).

FOR NAPLES AND LEGHORN.—Hyson (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Vindobona (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Tremont (str.), Shinano Maru (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Ningchow (str.), Athenian (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Adria (str.), Croydon (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Victoria (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—Indrasomha (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Chinglu (str.), Kumano Maru (str.), Eastern (str.).

FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Bombay Maru (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.—Kumsang (str.).

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—Business during the past week has continued exceedingly dull, and with the exception of a moderate increase in Banks, most stocks show a tendency towards lower rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have further improved with sales up to \$662½, at which rate, however, there are probable sellers. London still quotes £62. Nationals are unchanged at \$27 sellers, but holders would probably accept \$26.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions continue in request at \$160. China Traders can be procured at \$58. North-Chinas have sold and are in some demand at Tls. 177½. Other stocks under this head are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Hongkongs can still be procured at \$345; and Chinas at the reduced rate of \$84½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are procurable to a small extent at \$36, after sales at \$36½ and \$36½. Indo-Chinas have sold at \$86 \$85 and \$84½ and close with probable sellers at \$84. Douglas's can be procured at \$41½. Star Ferries are wanted at \$23 (old) and \$13 (new). Shell Transports have sold and can be procured at \$1.12s 6d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have rallied and after sales at \$84 to \$86 the market closes with probable buyers at the higher rate. Luzons can be procured at \$12½.

MINING.—Punjoms are wanted at \$2½. Raubs have been booked at \$6, and have further buyers.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been done at \$212½ and \$210, and we close weak with sellers at the higher rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold at \$88 and more shares are obtainable. New Amoy Docks can be procured at \$40.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue firm at \$185 buyers. Kowloon Lands have sold at \$30, and are in further request. West Points have improved to \$57 buyers. Hongkong Hotels have sold at \$141 and \$140 and close with further shares offering at the higher rate. Orientes are unchanged at \$37½ sellers. Humphreys Estates after sale at \$12½ and \$12½ are reported offering at \$12.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have sellers at Tls. 4½. A small lot of Hongkong Cottons can be procured at the reduced rate of \$17½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Manila Investments are slightly firmer, but shares can be obtained at the closing quotation of \$16. Green Island Cements have sold and there are further buyers at \$20½. A. S. Watsons after sales at \$14½ are now procurable at \$14½. Electrics continue in request at \$13.10 (old) and \$6½ (new)—there are sellers of the latter at \$6.65. Feuwicks are offering at \$50. Ices can be procured at \$240 and Tramways at \$345. Steam Water-Boats

have been done at \$8.65 and \$8.75 and there are probable further buyers. China Providents have sold at \$9.75 and \$9.85 and close in strong request at the former rate. China Light and Powers have declined to \$10 sellers. Powells are wanted at \$9½. Philippine Tobacco Trusts are obtainable at the reduced rate of \$35.

MEMOS.—China Borneo Company, Limited, extraordinary general meeting on the 29th inst. Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co. Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 30th inst.; transfer books close on the 23rd inst. Hongkong Steam Water-Boat Co., Ltd., notify that the remaining call of \$3 per share is on payable or before the 2nd January, 1903.

Closing quotations are as follows:

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	{ \$662½, L'don, £62.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$33.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$25, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$10, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.85.
China Sugar	\$100	\$85, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, sellers
Philippine Tobacco	\$50	\$35, sellers
Invest. Co., Ltd.		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 41.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 42.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17½, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11 sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$50, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20½, sales & buys.
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13.10, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$6.65, sales & sells.
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$8.65, sales & buys.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$141, sales & sells.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$88.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$120, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$212½, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$167½, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$84½, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$58, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$34½, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 177½, sales & buy.
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$50	\$460, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$133, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$185, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sales & buys.
West Point Building	\$50	\$57, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$12½, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$16, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$6.0, sellers
Jebebu	\$5	\$14, sellers
Punjum	\$10	\$2½, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	75 cents, sellers
Raubs	18	\$6, sales & buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$4½, sellers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$37½, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9½, buyers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$25, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41½, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$36.
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$85, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£1.12s 6d, sales & buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$23, sales & buys.
Do.	\$5	\$13, sales & buy.
Tebrun Planting Co.	\$5	nominal.
United Abestos	\$4	\$8½, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$155.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$22, buyers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$7½.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14½, sellers.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 19th December.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/7
Bank Bills, on demand	1/7½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/7½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/7½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/7½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/7½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	1.99½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.03½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.62½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	38½
Credits, 60 days' sight	39½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	118½
Bank, on demand	118½
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	118½
Bank, on demand	118½
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	30½ p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	par
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	95½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	63
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$12.54
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per taol	\$65.25
BAR SILVER per oz.	22½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 19th December.—Business continues dull with little demand for tonnage. From Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul nominal; to Philippines and Java, no enquiry; to one port Japan, 27 cents per picul has been paid for prompt steamer, and 40 cents per picul for March loading. Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul offering for dry sugar. Coal freights are weaker: Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton last; to Singapore, \$3 per ton. The following are the settlements:—
Lothair—Italian barque, 794 tons, hence to Callao, £1,200 in full.
Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 771 tons, Chefoo to Swatow, \$4,500 in full.
Bjorn—Norwegian steamer, 724 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.60 per ton.
Babelsberg—German steamer, 1,379 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
Taurus—Norwegian steamer, 1,367 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
Benledi—British steamer, 1,481 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
Fausang—British steamer, 1,110 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
Hinsang—British steamer, 1,536 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
Madduff—British steamer, 1,882 tons, Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3 per ton.
Repton or substitute—British steamer, 1,852 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3 per ton.
Deramore—Norwegian steamer, 1,479 tons, Karatzu to Manila, \$4 per ton.
An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Yokohama (prompt), 27 cents per picul.
An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Yokohama (March), 40 cents per picul.
Themis—Norwegian steamer, 1,208 tons, Saigon to Yokohama (March), 40 cents per picul.
A Jebens & Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Yokohama (March), 40 cents per picul.
Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.
Telemachus—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Hongkong (20,000 piculs), 10 cents per picul.
Doris—Norwegian steamer, 965 tons, Saigon to Hongkong (15,000 piculs), 10 cents per picul.
Ely—Norwegian steamer, 708 tons, Nauchow and/or Tonghoi to Singapore, 19 cents; if Penang, 22 cents per picul.
Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, monthly, 9 months, at \$6,100 per month.
Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, monthly 8 months, at \$5,500 per month.
Grosvenor—British barque, 516 tons, sold for \$9,000.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

December—

ARRIVALS.

- 14, Thea, German str., from Wuhu.
 14, Themis, Norwegian str., from Manila.
 15, Anamba, Danish str., from Bangkok.
 15, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 15, Chinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 15, Chunsang, British str., from Swatow.
 15, Chwanshan, British str., from Saigon.
 15, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
 15, Goliath, British battleship, from Amoy.
 15, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Chefoo.
 15, Karin, Swedish str., from Bangkok.
 15, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.
 15, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 15, Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
 15, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
 15, J. H. Lunemann, Amr. ship, from Port Townsend.
 15, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 15, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 15, Yochow, British str., from Tongku.
 16, Canton, British str., from London.
 16, Hsieh-Ho, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 16, Kumsang, British str., from Singapore.
 16, Mongkut, German str., from Bangkok.
 16, Saphir, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 16, Selus, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 16, Sishan, British str., from Swatow.
 16, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 16, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 16, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 17, Cassius, German str., from Canton.
 17, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 17, Chunsang, British str., from Canton.
 17, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 17, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.
 17, Haiching, British str., from Foochow.
 17, Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
 17, Marie Jensen, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
 17, Pronts, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 17, Talbot, British str., from Canton.
 18, Brunnhilde, German str., from Sandakan.
 18, Cressy, British cruiser, from Singapore.
 18, Haiphong, French str., from Haiphong.
 18, Haldis, Norwegian str., from Mauritius.
 18, Hunau, British str., from Canton.
 18, Silesia, German str., from Singapore.
 18, Suevia, German str., from Shanghai.
 18, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 18, Yushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

December— DEPARTURES.

- 14, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 14, Frithjof, Norw. str., for Haiphong.
 14, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Lena, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
 14, Opack, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Sooncar, Norwegian str., for Yokohama.
 14, Tydens, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
 15, Brand, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 15, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.
 15, Indus, French str., for Europe.
 15, Kentucky, U.S. flag ship, for Manila.
 15, Loyal, German str., for Bangkok.
 15, Orono, British str., for New York.
 15, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 15, Tiger, German gunboat, for Bangkok.
 15, Tremont, British str., for Manila.
 16, Aleinous, British str., for Liverpool.
 16, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 16, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
 16, Chelydra, British str., for Singapore.
 16, Dagmar, Norwegian str., for Iloilo.
 16, Derawangse, German str., for Bangkok.
 16, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 16, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 16, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Canton.
 16, Kinshiu Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 16, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
 16, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 16, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.
 16, Taurus, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 16, Yochow, British str., for Canton.
 16, Algerine, British sloop, for Canton.
 16, Gaea, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
 16, Phoenix, British sloop, for Canton.
 17, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 17, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 17, Chunsang, British str., for Hongay.
 17, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Din, Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.
 17, Eclipse, British cruiser, for practice.

- 17, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 17, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 17, Hsieh-Ho, Chinese str., for Canton.
 17, Lightning, British str., for Ca'cutta.
 17, New Orleans, Amr. cruiser, for Manila.
 17, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 17, Sishan, British str., for Saigon.
 17, Selun, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 17, Tamba Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
 17, Toonan, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 17, Tacoma, British str., for Tacoma.
 18, Arnold Luylen, German str., for Saigon.
 18, Cassius, German str., for Nagasaki.
 18, Charterhouse, Brit. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 18, Gloucester City, Brit. str., for Sourabaya.
 18, Nonni, Russian str., for Nagasaki.
 18, Taicheong, British str., for Swatow.
 18, Taifu, German str., for Saigon.
 18, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Kaifong*, from Cebu, &c., Messrs. R. O. Sheward, Edgar A. Willis and Aldance (3).
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, General and Mrs. Wint, Mrs. Kirkhoven and infant, Mrs. M. Sheemum, Mrs. A. W. Walton and two children, Mrs. Wessel, and Mrs. Cha. J. Smith, Misses Sarienten, Sitie and Banjon, Major Seaton Norman, Lieut. Caines, Surgeon E. M. Shipp, Commander C. Rohen, Captain G. Parker, Messrs. C. E. Edwards, J. W. Houston, A. Brizon, J. T. Long, J. R. Redfern, J. W. Jamieson, T. G. Doyle, A. Whippley, Jones Roe, W. Maloue, Barney Pasurksy, J. Rolonds and Harry Brown.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Miss P. Sarloos, Capt. F. C. Amestead, Messrs. J. Casey, A. Bays, E. C. Mansfield, J. W. Priestley, F. C. Kearney, F. W. Heins, W. P. Stone, A. Placiolo and E. de Castro.
 Per *Kumsang*, from Singapore, Lieut. and Mrs. Good.

Per *Canton*, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Dew, Col. and Mrs. Webb, Mrs. J. Launty and child, Capt. Whitehead, Messrs. Templeton and Paterson.

Per *Rohilla Maru*, from Manila, Lieut. Wm. Hopkins, Dr. Butterfield, Misses M. Wood, Tullis and Grey, Messrs. Henri Blum, John Reid, E. A. Marshall, E. G. Eager, A. Eddy, Daris, W. L. Richardson and Chas. Betts.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. de F. Gonsalves, Mr. and Mrs. Arnaldo Novaes and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Culierch, Revs. P. Rault and Millet, Messrs. Joseph Baud and Repido; from Port Said, Mr. Benyamino; from Colombo, Mr. Hayaccawa; from Singapore, Revs. C. S. Victal, d'Azevedo Bartholo, Messrs. F. S. Vietl and Hewahsha; from Saigon, Messrs. Nicholas Colson and Pihet; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Mignot and two children, Mrs. Senes, Mr. and Mrs. Guilbert, Mr. and Mrs. Francois and child, Revs. Leroux, Dubois and Pihet, Sergt. Cleret, Messrs. Hiribaren, Buckens, Cardinail, de Ryckman, Alex. Wohlgemuth, V. Ondin and F. L. Borthou; from Port Said, Rev. Samuel Couling; from Djibouti, Mr. Audemard; from Colombo, Mr. Hermann; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Luzzati, Messrs. C. de Yuchansk, Salomon Ach. W. Humpton Ferris, Blerin, R. Brebaud, Jacob and Guichenin; from Colombo, Messrs. Schultz, H. Burnham and Goldberg; from Singapore, Mr. Regout; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Meramon and Mr. Mazieh; for Nagasaki, from Batavia, Mrs. Oh Josu.

Per *Tamba Maru*, from London, for Hongkong, Mrs. and Miss L. T. Andrew, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rodger and three children, Mrs. A. Rodger and five children, Miss M. Rodger, Mrs. J. Mossop, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jones and three children, Mrs. S. Samples, Mr. and Mrs. Aiers and three children, Mrs. S. Murai, Messrs. Morton, D. Graves and A. Aiers.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Michael, Mr. and Mrs. Dos Santoo, Miss Lucas, Messrs. C. G. Mackie, Duchemin, A. J. Begley, J. Gillies, Fandman, A. B. Nelson.

Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. Bent, Mrs. R. Hope, Mrs. R. K. Veale, Mrs. Cardwell, Mrs. Gschwind, Mrs. George Eckley, Mrs. Humphreys and son, Mrs. Gill and 3 children, Mrs. Blocklinger, Mrs. E. Chamberlain, Mrs. R. E. Barker, Mrs. Ward and 2 children, Mrs. F. Drake, Misses Emily

Calvert, Daisy Wu, A. Walker, M. Mendoza, S. Billings, F. McFreely, Comdr. E. M. Hughes, Comdr. G. Blocklinger, Major J. O. Hutchinson, Dr. S. Kobayashi, Dr. J. G. Humphreys, Capt. D. C. Campbell, Messrs. W. B. Curtis, T. P. McArar, E. H. Murray, H. Bent, W. F. Hopkins, E. Cardwell, J. W. Vaggy, K. D. Hormisjee, R. H. Gschwind, J. R. Twentyman, T. T. Wee, D. R. Edwards, L. Lay Gill, C. E. Osorio, M. H. Crossmayer, F. Gilchrist, F. Damart, J. Burton, H. C. Bartlett, E. H. Brown, H. A. E. Jamie, G. H. Davis, J. H. Ward, H. M. Ayres, R. J. Bulkley.

Per *Thal*, from Swatow, Messrs. T. D. Richardson, and Thomas.

Per *Silesia*, from Singapore, Mrs. Kleffel and 4 children, Miss Suowmann, Miss Schöning, Mr. Danilsen and child, Messrs. Müller, and Hertel.

Per *Haiphong*, from Haiphong, Mrs. Muller, Messrs. de Sainttauvem, Gaquin, Pestonji, Rhazis, and Baker.

DEPARTED.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. J. Moreno and two children, Mrs. G. W. Dairs, Miss Dairs, Miss Z. Dairs, Mrs. T. Nakamura and son, Mrs. T. Imamura, Mr. and Mrs. Honda, Miss H. Honda, Mrs. S. Kida, Misses S. Tanaka, S. Imamura and C. Kobayashi, Rev. E. C. Horn, Capt. Low, Prof. K. Kaerger, Messrs. Geo. Williams, J. W. Wrem, H. D. Terrall, G. Anderson, S. Gonzalez, S. Bamard, K. Morita, L. Staffkin, A. L. Knight, H. S. Resenthal, C. R. Troubridge, S. Miyamoto and H. Koyama.

Per *Korea*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Styls, Capt. and Mrs. F. H. Whitman, Mr. and Mrs. Kellmann, Dr. E. M. Shipp, Lieut. W. Turnbull, U.S.A., Miss Doris Grey, Messrs. N. G. Evans, J. Wacker and J. W. Ross Taylor; for Nagasaki, Capt. and Mrs. G. C. Longino and infant; for Yokohama, Comdr. C. Rehner, Messrs. Stewart Rhodes, A. Whipkey, R. Jones, F. H. Connelly, W. Malone, B. Rasiecki, O. L. Johnson and T. D. McKay; for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Salkey, Mr. and Mrs. N. Cohn, Mrs. Ella Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Townsend, Messrs. Frank S. Clark, T. S. O'Leary, E. C. Tobey, F. L. Hoffmann, L. J. Raumbach, F. C. Hubbell, S. D. Poole, E. H. Low and Geo. Compere.

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